



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our learning

Academic Year 2013-2014

- Year: 1
- Term: 5

Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Ms N Farrow
- Mrs Asquith
- Mrs Dewsnap
- Ms Golland
- Miss Pendlebury

Dear parents and carers,

In Term 5 we begin a new whole-school Curriculum Theme and I am delighted at how our new curriculum is engaging our children. I was really sad that I could not attend the exhibition which was organised to celebrate the learning that had taken place during our first 'Marvellous Machines' theme. I was extremely pleased with the positive feedback that we received about the theme and exhibition.

I am satisfied at the way we are balancing the importance for a dynamic, inclusive and exciting curriculum with the need to maintain a relentless focus on improving standards and accelerating levels pupil progress. Achieving this balance is key to securing the learning ethos I want for St John Fisher. Our challenge is to develop a curriculum that engages all children and empowers them to be the inquisitive, confident and independent learners who enjoy learning and achieve well consistently.

Please read the overview and contact us if you have something you can offer to enhance our children's learning experience. Perhaps you have a collection of artefacts or some experiences or stories to share. Perhaps you have some expertise in a related field or some useful contacts. We would really love to hear from you if you are interested in getting involved.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely belonging to the Headteacher.

Headteacher

R.E. Topic 1: Pentecost – Serving: Holidays and Holy Days

Children will be thinking about holidays as special days and then their origin of Holy Days. They will focus on Ascension Day, Pentecost and the birth of the Church.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Talking about special holidays and how you celebrate them as a family.
- Discussing Ascension Day and Pentecost.
- Thinking together about the birth of the Church and how this is important to you as a family.

R.E. Topic 2: Reconciliation – Inter-relating

Children will be thinking about making choices in light of their belief in a loving God. They will think about making the wrong choices as well as the right ones and how Jesus forgave those who made the wrong choices. They will learn about how God helps us to be kind and recognises that we need forgiveness and about the importance of saying sorry knowing we are happy when we love one another.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Talking about making choices.
- Discussing what happens when we make the right choices and the wrong choices.
- Thinking together about forgiveness and loving one another.





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English: Daily Reading & Phonics Skills

Read Write Inc Sessions

Children on the Read Write Inc programme will continue to have daily sessions with their group aimed developing confidence with phonics, reading and writing. Children are assessed regularly to ensure that they are in the right group. If you would like more information about the programme please let us know.

Guided Reading

All children no longer involved in the Read Write Inc programme will have daily reading activities to boost their levels of confidence and enjoyment as well as their comprehension skills.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Reading your child's reading books with them for a few minutes every day as well as enjoying all sorts of other books and reading materials together.
- You can help your child to read signs and notices when you are out and about so she/he realises reading is everywhere.
- Encouraging your child to write as often as possible whether it is signing cards, making a shopping list, labelling pictures, writing stories or helping you when you are writing.
- Helping your child to form letters correctly. Please ask if you would like more information about this.

English: Basic Skills

All children will benefit from having daily handwriting and spelling practise and regular grammar and punctuation sessions focused on their *individual* needs. Children in Y1 will be focusing on their phonic knowledge and ability to read both real and alien (made up) words. Please come and chat about what your child is working on in school.

Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

We will continue to focus on counting to and from 100 but now in twos, fives, tens and other numbers such as threes and fours, noticing the patterns. We will also continue to add and subtract numbers to 20 and to make sets to multiply and divide. We will be thinking about fractions, halves and even quarters for those who are ready. We will start to work with larger numbers using Numicon to help us understand place value.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Continuing to count forwards and backwards to and from different numbers up to 100. Ask questions such as what comes after..., before..., what number is two more than/less than....? Encourage your child to count in 10s, 2s and 5s and other numbers as s/he is ready.
- Try making sets from different numbers e.g. 15, 16 or 18 etc. What does your child notice about sets of 2, 5 or 4?
- Can your child halve then quarter numbers and shapes and objects?
- Does your child know how many tens and ones are in different numbers? E.g. three tens and four ones in 34. What about how many hundreds there are in larger numbers?

Theme: Goal

Our new topic is Goal. We will start by setting ourselves some personal goals to achieve this term and then think of ways to do this. A big focus will be our phonic knowledge for reading. We will move onto thinking about the World Cup and other sports later.

English: Creative Writing

Children will be learning about rhyming words, spelling and poetry. The emphasis will be on the use of adjectives and interesting vocabulary to make poems exciting and interesting for the reader.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Reading and making up rhymes and poems about all sorts of things you are doing/your child's interests.





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Mathematics within the Theme

We will focus on: position and direction and length and height.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Thinking about the vocabulary of direction and play games giving your child instructions to move forwards, backwards, turn, go left, right, over, under, behind, next to etc. Remote controlled toys are great for this topic if you have one at home.
- Comparing and measuring the length and height of different objects using hands, bricks and then rulers and tape measures.

Science

We will find out about forces.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Talking about pushing, pulling, twisting and spinning objects and what happens to them when you do this. Is it the same if you push gently as it is when you push vigorously?
- Using the internet and/or public library to research forces.

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHE)

This term we will focus on making choices and forgiveness.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Discussing which choices are good and which might be wrong.
- Thinking about what we can do when we have made the right/wrong choices and how this makes us and others feel.
- Thinking about how to forgive others when they have made the wrong choices.

Geography/History

We will think about and investigate toys and games through history.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Investigating toys and games through history on the internet or at the library.

Art

In art we will focus on large scale painting, both individual and a class project. We will also look at the work of Vincent Van Gogh.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Finding interesting pictures by different artists.
- Trying out large scale work at home.
- Researching the life and work of Van Gogh.

P.E.

P.E. is on Wednesday afternoon each week. Sessions are led by specialist P.E. coaches. This term they will cover orienteering and rounders.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- Doing regular physical activity e.g. playing in the garden, going to the park, swimming etc.
- By watching different sports live or on TV so that your child can see athletes performing at the highest level.





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Music

Music is taught by Miss Pendlebury, our specialist music teacher. Your child will be learning how to sing and enjoy music as part of a class group and the school community.

You can support your child's learning at home by:

- *Asking your child to sing songs to you and talk about music lessons. (Music is on Friday each week).*

