



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

*Sharing our learning*

## Academic Year 2016-2017

- **Year:** 3
- **Term:** 1

## Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Miss Kiernan
- Miss Scholey
- Miss D'Roza
- Miss J Pendlebury
- Mrs Asquith
- Mrs Pickering

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the first curriculum overview of the new school year. The purpose of the overview is to let you know what the children will be learning this term and set out some of the ways in which you can support them at home.

New learning is fragile and needs time to embed so that it is not lost. It is important that children receive the right kind of support in school and at home. This is why we set homework tasks with the aim of supporting and extending your child's new learning. Expectations regarding homework are therefore also shared in the overview along with suggestions for supporting children at home.

It is very important that all homework is at least attempted at home. If you have a child who does not understand something set for homework, then the homework has done its job. Please ask your child to do as much as he/she can honestly manage, offer reassurance and notify the relevant teacher the next day who will then follow it up with all the help and encouragement that that your child requires. Please do not force your child to carry on if he/she really does not understand, as this can be negative.

We know that methods of teaching and learning change over the years and so we are **always** happy to explain them to you if you have a question or are not sure about something. We are also happy to arrange parent/carer workshops or even support you on a one-to-one basis if you would find this helpful. Please speak to your child's teacher in confidence if you would like some support.

During our first term the children start a new theme called 'A Whole New World'. If you can support us because you have a skill, specialist knowledge; a real-life experience to share; or useful contacts, please speak to your child's teacher. All offers of help are welcomed and appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher

## Homework

Children will be set homework every week on Wednesday and this will be due back by the following Tuesday.

The homework will be:

- [www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk) (which will be differentiated to the correct level for your child)
- [www.activelearnprimary.co.uk](http://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk) (new website for 'Bug Club') for reading homework
- spellings to learn for a weekly quiz
- additional topic related homework at various other times.

## The Study Hub

*The daily lunchtime 'Study Hub' provides pupils with an opportunity to practise/embed new skills learned in class, do research, read, access online learning tools or complete homework. They will have supervised access to our resources and the support of Mrs Raynes if they need it. All are welcome.*



## R.E. Topic:

For information on the RE curriculum please see the attached 'Come and See' letter.

## English: Basic Skills – Reading, Phonics, Spelling, Handwriting

### Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar & Handwriting

All children will benefit from having daily handwriting and spelling practise, and regular grammar and punctuation sessions focused on meeting their *individual* needs. Children all have individual targets for writing, such as including specific punctuation or using descriptive language and these will be focussed on throughout all their writing.

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

- supporting them to learn their weekly spellings
- talking about their targets for writing

### Guided Reading

All children have daily reading activities to boost their levels of confidence and enjoyment as well as their comprehension skills, as this is a really important part of reading and one that can be overlooked.

#### 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 other books)
- choosing another book by the same author, to read with your child
- encouraging your child to read a wider range of more challenging books, to widen their experience
- discussing their personal targets for reading (as shared on their record sheet from parent's meeting)

## Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills

We will focus on the following this term:

- ✓ addition and subtraction using a range of methods
- ✓ place value, including ordering and comparing numbers up to and beyond 1000
- ✓ developing methods to solve a range of word problems

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

- getting your child to look at numbers around them and being able to know what each number represents for example; 56, the 5 means 50.
- comparing and ordering numbers according to the place value of their digits. Asking questions like, "Which is smaller 1327 or 1527?"
- practising times tables each night.
- looking at your child's individual maths target and talking about it with them.

## Theme: A Whole New World

Our main curriculum topic this term will be The Vikings. We will also be having focussed sessions in science about forces and magnets. Our Art, Geography, History, DT and Science will be covered through this topic.

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

- researching about the Vikings in general; their day-to-day lives and the skills used to travel to new lands
- looking at various maps about different physical features of the planet
- discussing the different ways that we find out about the past and how we can use historical evidence
- making sure that you are aware of what children are viewing or engaging with online and talking to them about staying safe

## English: Creative Writing within the Theme

This term, we will be focusing on the theme of 'A Whole New World'. The children will be writing non-fiction texts such as information leaflets and newspaper reports, using our topic work as a starting point and organising their writing using paragraphs, headings and sub-headings. We will also be examining how stories are structured and the way authors use language to add detail and engage their readers. Children all have individual targets for writing, such as including specific punctuation or using descriptive language and these will be focussed on throughout all their writing.



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

- reading books about Vikings
- finding out facts about how Britain changed during Viking times
- encouraging your child to describe in detail when discussing objects, places, event, etc

## Mathematics within the Theme

We will focus on:

- ✓ 2D shapes
- ✓ measures

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

- investigating the different distances, as the Vikings travelled across great areas of the world
- looking at accurate measuring, as this was an important skill for Vikings
- looking at 2D shapes at home and discussing their names

## Art and Design within the Theme

We will be learning about the Vikings as great craft makers and designers. The children will be learning to design a Viking longboat, considering and applying construction skills. They will also be evaluating and adapting their techniques as part of continuous cycle of learning.

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

- discussing how a variety of objects could be made.
- encouraging your child to attempt to design and/or make models

## Science

### Forces & Magnets

During this topic we will be exploring forces and thinking about pushes and pulls. We will also investigate friction, thinking about how different surfaces effect the movement of wheels. Then we will move onto looking at magnets, investigating which materials are magnetic and which are the strongest magnets. We will also talk about a magnet field, which poles attract and repel as well as finding out how compasses work.

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

- talking about which motions are pushes and pulls and whether the force starts or stops motion
- look for different surfaces and how they affect wheel motion
- think about which materials are magnetic/non-magnetic and where magnets are used in the home
- using the vocabulary north, south, east and west to reinforce our work on compasses
- use a compass if possible

## Computing within the Theme

This term, we will be exploring programming.

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

- using language to describe directions such as forward, backward, turn left and turn right
- looking at free applications (apps) to make objects move e.g. 'Scratch'

## Music

Music is taught by Miss Pendlebury, our music teacher. During our 'Animal Magic' unit the children will:

- discuss how different animals are described
- learn the 'Tortoise Song' and adding movements
- learn the melody on the glockenspiels
- watch and learn traditional Indian dance movements for different animals
- invent music to represent different animal movements

## PE

The children will benefit from a programme called Real PE. This term the children will develop personal skills with a focus on physical co-ordination and balance. This term the children will also be doing swimming.



## French

We will start to learn the basics of French this term, learning how to read and say basic vocabulary and short conversations. We will be learning how to say numbers 0-10 in French as well as basic greetings including asking 'how are you?' and replying.

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

- *exploring the website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primarylanguages/french/> and listening to how you say different vocabulary*
- *asking your child to teach you how to say numbers 0-10 in French and practising using them during everyday conversation*