

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Sharing our Learning



FS2 INFORMATION

- YEAR: 2022-23
- TERM: 2
- CONTACT: yearfs@st-johnfisher.org

FS2 TEACHING & LEARNING TEAM

- Mrs V Barratt
- Mrs A Prentice
- Miss R D'Roza

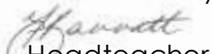
Dear Parents and Carers,

This is our second curriculum overview of the year, and its purpose is to share what the children will be learning in the busy weeks leading up to Christmas. We will also share the key words your children will be learning along with suggestions for the different ways you can support their learning at home.

Our approach is always to be encouraging and reassuring. We want to affirm our children and enable each of them to feel as confident as possible. We do this because confidence builds resilience, and resilience is a trait of happy and successful learners. We aim to help the children to see learning as fun, even when it is sometimes challenging. The children will be encouraged to be fearless learners; reassured that making mistakes as they develop knowledge and skills is a perfectly normal part of the learning process. We remind them, constantly, that we are all here to support them, so they can be open about their struggles and worries.

We know that ways of teaching and learning change over time, so we are **always** happy to explain them to anyone who would like more information. We can do this on a one-to-one basis or in workshops. We just want to help parents/carers feel confident to help their children at home.

Yours sincerely,


Headteacher

TERM 2 LEARNING VALUE: HONESTY

Our Term 2 Learning Value is 'Honesty'. To be *honest* is to speak and act truthfully and not, knowingly, say anything that is untrue. It is about being open and transparent. It is about being authentic and acting with integrity. People who are honest do not do things that are wrong, morally, but rather, they try hard to take responsibility for themselves, their words and their actions. They do not break rules or laws, nor do they hide their true intentions and actions from others.



Honesty is as much about being truthful with others as it is about being truthful with ourselves. This includes understanding what drives us and what holds us back; it is knowing why we act in certain ways, in certain situations; and it is about being true to ourselves, our values and beliefs.

RE

Information about our Term 2 RE curriculum is in the 'Come and See' letter accompanying this overview (click [here](#)). Details of liturgies, Masses and services are shared in our online calendar and in our weekly newsletter (click [here](#)). Recordings can be viewed via this [link](#). In Term 2 we will focus on the virtues of '**hope**' and '**patience**'.



EYFS CHARACTERISTICS OF LEARNING

Throughout the year we will be looking at how children develop certain characteristics of learning, for example, how easily and well they engage with their learning; how they find out about things; how they explore and how willing they are to 'have a go'. We will support and encourage them to be motivated to learn by getting involved, concentrating well, by keeping trying and by enjoying achieving those things that they set out to do.



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We will also consider:

- ✓ *whether they are able to develop their own ideas*
- ✓ *whether they make links in their learning*
- ✓ *how they choose to do things*
- ✓ *whether they plan, review or change their strategy when approaching a task*

We will talk a lot about the importance of being **resilient**, **resourceful**, **reciprocal** and **reflective** - linking these key characteristics to relatable media characters. These are the learning attitudes children need in order to be happy and successful learners. Our aim is to lay the foundations so that each child is able to grow their skills and achieve both personally and academically.

OUR TERM 2 TOPIC OVERVIEW: LIGHT AND DARK

This term we will investigate: What makes it dark? What can we use to help us see and be seen in the dark? We will observe the changes from autumn to winter including the changes in some trees, the weather, nocturnal animals and animals that hibernate. We will discuss why it is easier to see the moon in wintertime and find out some facts about the moon and space travel. We will also link our work to festivals and celebrations such as Diwali, Bonfire Night, Hanukkah and Advent.

Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ *light/dark*
- ✓ *nocturnal*
- ✓ *festival/celebrate*

Be Safe Be Happy Week 2022

Week 1 of the term is 'Be Safe Be Happy Week'. Across school the children will participate in a range of different lessons and workshops led by staff and visiting experts that will explore issues around personal safety and wellbeing.



Remembrance 2022

The children will have special lessons that explore the origins and significance of Remembrance Sunday. We will base our learning around a special cbeebies film that you can view via this [LINK](#)

On Friday 11th November, Armistice Day, we will come together as a community to participate in our Service of Remembrance at Our Lady of Lourdes. We invite family and friends, as well as members of our wider community, to join us as the children lead us in a simple and prayerful act of remembrance. The service will be filmed so that it can be viewed by family and friends afterwards by clicking [here](#).



PRIME AREAS: PERSONAL SOCIAL EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT (PSED)

Through everyday activities and by sharing stories and songs we will continue to learn how to play cooperatively with our friends and consider other people's points of view. We will explore why we follow rules; how they keep us safe; and how we can help others.

The children are now confident to use the classroom resources and are showing increasing independence around the school. Our Buddies in **Y4** have added a positive element to the development of the children's relationships and we will plan more events to spend time together.

Key words we will be using are:

- ✓ *listen*
- ✓ *share*
- ✓ *respect*
- ✓ *independence*
- ✓ *feelings words-happy, sad, lonely, frustrated, excited, etc.*

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

- ✓ asking your child all about their likes and dislikes
 - What do they enjoy doing?
 - What are their favourite pastimes, animals, colours and anything else you can think of?

PRIME AREAS: PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT (PD)

We will use the outdoor area every day during independent learning time, to promote gross motor development. The children will have daily 'Funky Fingers' activities and 'Dough Disco' session as well as 'Wiggle While you Squiggle' ('Flipper Flappers') every week to encourage and strengthen fine-motor movements. The children will also learn about how to keep their bodies healthy including eating a healthy diet to promote good growth and strong bones, exercising, sleeping, and cleaning our teeth. They will also consider ways to keep safe and warm during the colder weather; talking about different clothes and how the weather affects our bodies.

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

- ✓ continuing to encourage children to be independent when getting dressed/undressed
- ✓ helping children to learn to put on and do up their own coats and shoes

PRIME AREAS: COMMUNICATION & LANGUAGE (C&L)

We have good routines for speaking and listening within the classroom and we model correct grammar and how to use new vocabulary. During this term, Mrs Barratt will introduce ECaT (Every Child a Talker) activities into our daily routine. This will link to our story in class, and we will sing songs and rhymes. ECaT activities will also be shared on our Class Page so that families can join in at home. Simple Makaton signs will also be introduced to support communication.

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

- ✓ asking 'open-ended' questions (questions where there are many possible answers) for example: 'I wonder what would happen if.....?' or 'How do you think.....?'

SPECIFIC AREAS: LITERACY

We will continue to develop literacy skills using our comprehensive Read Write Inc. phonics programme every day. Children will continue to take home a weekly library book to enjoy. Texts this term include 'Whatever Next?', 'Day Monkey', 'Night Monkey', 'Ridiculous!', 'Dear Santa' and 'The Christmas Story'. The children will also look at non-fiction texts when they learn about Diwali, Hanukkah and how Christmas is celebrated both now and in the past. They will also learn facts linked to our light and dark topic.

The children will be encouraged to write in a variety of ways: writing their name on their own work, using their phonic knowledge to write labels; and captions etc. The children will also be encouraged to write for different purposes within their play, e.g. writing their own letters, invitations, lists and cards.

SPECIFIC AREAS: MATHEMATICS

Number: the children will continue with our number work and carefully practise counting accurately and matching the quantity to the correct numerals. We will also begin to learn about more than and less than and combining groups together to count total amounts.

Shape, Space and Measure: We will develop our understanding of 2d and 3d shapes and practise identifying and making repeating patterns.

SPECIFIC AREAS: UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD (UTW)

The children will be exploring the theme of light and dark and learning how to find out new information and facts. We will be finding out about seasonal changes and the changes in the natural world. We will be learning about how people celebrate special occasions with their families and learn in more detail about some cultural and religious celebrations that take place at this time of year.

SPECIFIC AREAS: EXPRESSIVE ARTS & DESIGN (EAD)

The children will continue to develop their drawing and painting skills as well as model-making. They will explore dance and music linked to fireworks and light. As Christmas approaches, they will use their ideas and skills to create decorations, collage pictures and print. They will rehearse/perform 'Wiggly Nativity' on 6th December!

