



# Curriculum Overview

*Sharing our learning*

## Academic Year 2014-2015

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

## Your Child's Teaching and Learning Team:

- Mrs B Drake
- Miss R D'Roza
- Miss A Roe-Parkin
- Miss J Pendlebury

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is our third overview of the year and the aim is to give you an overview of all the things that the children will be learning in school this term. It also includes tips for supporting them at home and information about homework.

If you have any questions or if you require any support so you can help your child(ren) at home please do not hesitate to contact us. We would also really like to hear from you if you can support us in any way.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher

## Homework

Children will be given homework every week on Friday and this will be due back by the following Thursday. The homework will be:

- One mental maths sheet
- spellings
- multiplication tables
- reading (colour band books and/or accessing Bug Club)
- one piece of writing linked to what the children have been learning

There is a daily Homework Club at lunchtime from 1.30pm in the Year 6 classroom which is run by Miss Hardman supported by older children. Children have access to her and the older children for support, as well as the library, technology and other resources not necessarily available at home. If your child struggles to fit everything then they would be very welcome to attend.

## R.E. Topic 1: Local Church- Community: Journeys

The topic 'Community' focuses on the experiences of community as an essential and enjoyable part of life for people. Children will learn that through the church, people are given various roles and are called upon to help others. We will be looking at the journey of the Catholic Church through the year and how we as a community, follow it through.

All elements of the children's literacy targets will be brought into the teaching of RE and there are numerous opportunities for speaking and listening through class discussion and role-play.

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

- talking about what it means to be part of a community
- discussing the child's own experiences of being part of the church and school community, or other people's experiences of being part of a community
- discussing any celebrations during the church journey that they have taken part in

## **R.E. Topic 2: Eucharist - Relating**

This topic is about how we can follow Jesus and how we can use his guidance to help others in the world. It will also allow the children to continue the work of Jesus.

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

- Talking about why giving and receiving are important.
- Discussing the importance of communion and how it is important in bring the community together.

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

### **Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar & Handwriting**

All children will benefit from having regular handwriting and spelling practise and regular grammar and punctuation sessions focused on meeting their individual needs.

### **Literacy Sessions**

This term, we will be focusing on Viking Sagas involving some kind of brave act. The children will 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. We will also be writing non-fiction texts such as explanations and reports, using our topic work as a starting point.

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

- Supporting them to learn their weekly spellings.
- Talking about their targets for writing (as shared on their record sheet)

### **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 real important part of reading and one that is 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) together
- Encouraging your child to read a wider range of more challenging books and other texts in order to widen their experience

## **Mathematics: Daily Number & Calculation Skills**

Following an analysis of the recent assessments we will focus on the following this term:

1. Recognise the place value of each digit in a four digit number (thousands, hundreds, tens, and ones)
2. Order and compare numbers beyond 1000
3. Read, to the nearest division and half-division, scales that are numbered or partially numbered; use the information to measure and draw to a suitable degree of accuracy
4. Developing mental methods of calculation to solve a range of word problems.

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

- Getting the children to look at numbers around them and being able to know what each number represents. For example; in 56, the 5 means 50.
- Practising times tables each night
- Looking at your child's individual maths target and talking about it with them.

## **Theme 2: War of the Worlds**

Our main curriculum topic this term will be *Empires and Explorers*. All of our art, geography, D.T. and science will be covered through this topic.

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

- researching empires and explorers in Britain and the World in general, and the Vikings specifically
- 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

We will focus on Sagas, poetry and play scripts during this theme. We will be finding and presenting information about the various aspects of Viking life.

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

- reading texts about the Viking voyages

## Mathematics within the Theme

We will focus on:

- ✓ Compass points
- ✓ Areas
- ✓ Co-ordinates
- ✓ 2D/ 3D shape
- ✓ Capacity and Mass

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

- revising the names and properties of 2D and 3D shapes
- measuring items around the home and garden using a variety of equipment with different volumes e.g. cups, bottles, bowl, jugs etc.

## Geography within the Theme

We will be learning how to read a map and how to identify places on a map using grid references.

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

- looking at various maps with different scales
- planning routes using a map

## Science within the Theme

We will be looking at forces and magnets.

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

- researching what the Vikings used when building their boat, and how if not designed correctly they could sink.

## Computing within the Theme

We will be looking at the creativity strand, which will focus on producing digital music.

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

- listening to Viking themed music. Ask them what do you notice about the music and what instruments have been used.

## Music

Music is taught by Miss Pendlebury, our specialist music teacher. Our topic is called 'Animal Magic' and we will be:

- discussing how different animals are described
- learning the 'Tortoise Song' and adding movements
- learning the melody on the glockenspiels
- watching and learning traditional Indian dance movements for different animals
- inventing music to represent different animal movements

## **PE**

The children will benefit from specialist teaching from sports coaches from LINKS Partnership. This term they will focus on rugby, dance and multi skills. The Year 3 and 4 after school clubs this term are Multi skills and Basketball.

## **French**

All children in Key stage 2 (Years 3 to 6) will now have a session of French each week led by Mrs Drake, a languages consultant and ex-local authority advisor. The sessions will be on Friday. Mrs Foley has had to stop working with us sadly, due to ill health.