

Key Stage 1 - Half Term Curriculum Overview

Year 2 2017/2018 - Spring 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the Christmas holidays. I sincerely hope that you all had a peaceful and relaxing Christmas and would like to wish you a happy and healthy new year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the kind gifts, cards and messages. I was once again overwhelmed by your generosity. For this half term I am pleased to provide you with information about what the children will be covering in the different subjects. We are continuing with the National Curriculum if you wish to know more about it visit the DfE website, the school website or speak with me. Kind regards, Mrs Furness

Catholic life of the school

On a Monday morning, we start the week by gathering together to reflect on the week ahead and pray together. Each Thursday at 3pm, we hold a Celebration Assembly, when we celebrate the achievements of children from each class with parents.

The children will be attending a variety of whole school masses, both in Church and in school.

The Wednesday Word is available for every child to take home every Wednesday. Please look out for this and share it with your child. Additional copies are available at the school office.

During this term the children will be involved in charity works, particularly during Lent. We will be taking part in fundraising activities and raising awareness of local charities through the Good Shepherd Appeal for Nugent Care and also be raising funds for 'Mission Together' which supports international charity work.

Healthy School Initiative

As part of the healthy school initiative, we will continue to encourage the children to be active at playtimes. Children will be encouraged to drink water throughout the day; therefore, it is important that the children have their bottles in everyday! It makes it easier for the children if the bottles have a sports top, as it would prevent any unnecessary spillage.

Healthy snack days will continue to be Monday to Friday and the children will be given the opportunity to eat their snacks during morning playtimes.

Information and dates to remember:

January:

Thurs 4 Start of Spring Term for children
Fri 5 Key Stage 1 trip to the Pantomime, Parr Hall
Tues 16 SATs meeting for year 2 and year 6 parents at 3.40pm & 5pm
Thurs 25 Reception Rejoice Assembly at 9am

February:

Thurs 8 Movie Night 3.30-5.45pm
Wed 14 Ash Wednesday Service
Wed 14 Parents' evening 3-5.30pm
Thurs 15 Parents' evening 5.30-8pm
Fri 16 School closes for half term at 3.30pm.

Homework information

- **English homework** will be given out on a Friday and is to be handed in the following Tuesday.

- **Spellings** will be given out on a Tuesday and tested the following Monday, in addition to a focus on the children embedding their spellings into their written work and working in their Spelling Logs.

- **Maths homework** will be given out on a Tuesday and is to be handed in on Friday of the same week.

- **Reading** Each child should read for a minimum of 15 minutes per night and complete their reading records.

Concerns and messages

If you have any concerns or problems, please do not hesitate to come in and see me at the end of the school day.

Any messages in the morning must be left with a Teaching Assistant on the Infant door and they will be passed directly to me that morning.

Year 2
General Class
Information

Big Maths

The children will continue to complete a weekly 'Big Maths' assessment and will be assessed at the end of the half term on their progress.

Each child will continue to keep their Big Maths files in their book bags so that they can share their assessments with you and work on the types of questions that they find more challenging. The children will continue to split into smaller groups and work with a Big Maths teacher once a week.

We will also be continuing to focus on learning our times tables and be rewarding with bronze, silver and gold stickers on our tables charts.

Please encourage your child to use their Maths skills at every opportunity.

Remember we are going for green!

Reading

In line with our school policy the children will develop their reading in class throughout the week through shared reading and guided reading sessions and I shall be monitoring their reading progress carefully each week with my own records. Our class reader for this half term will incorporate a variety of traditional tales and alternative fairy tales.

The reading records are for parents to record your child's reading at home. We ask all our children to read for 15 minutes each night. Although I will be keeping my own record of your child's reading progress it would be really helpful if you could make comments in your child's reading record book each time they read, to let me know how they have coped with a book at home. Home reading records are checked every day and home reading is acknowledged with positive comments and stickers.

We have purchased a lot of new reading resources throughout the school, in particular the banded home readers. I will be checking weekly and guiding your child's choice of reading book and changing them as necessary.

If your child reads any other reading material as well as their reading book from school, please also make a note of it in their reading record. The home reading record is also a good way to make contact with me if you wish to send me a message and cannot get into school.

As well as our reading activities in class, we ask that in addition to hearing your child read, you share books and read to them and explore the pleasure of reading with your child.

The school continues to run an early doors reading club (£2) 8am - 8:45am each morning. Open to all!

Grammar Hammer

The children will continue to complete a fortnightly 'Grammar Hammer' assessment and will be assessed at the end of the half term on their progress.

Each child will continue to keep their SPAG folders (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) in their book bags so that they can share their assessments with you and work on the types of questions that they find more challenging. The children will be focusing on one grammar aspect each week.

Please encourage your child to use their folders to practise different areas of grammar at every opportunity.

RE -Spring term topics**Books-**

To find out and learn about the different books used at home and school. To find out about the books used on a Sunday by the Parish family.

Thanksgiving-

The children will know and understand the different ways to say thank you and that during the Eucharist, the Parish family gives thanks to God for Jesus.

Please read the RE Newsletter on the school website for more information.

English**Reading**

- The children will read traditional and alternative versions of traditional tales.
- Understand what they read by: checking that the text makes sense to them and asking questions to improve their understanding of a text.
- Answer simple questions, finding evidence in the text to support an answer.

Writing

- Compose and rehearse sentences orally building a rich vocabulary.
- Write character profiles to describe good and bad characters in stories.
- Use simple story maps to create own alternative versions of a traditional tale such as 'Jack and the Baked Beanstalk'.
- Imaginative writing linked to our space topic, letter writing.

Grammar and Punctuation

- Use conjunctions to extend simple sentences, and, but, so, because.
- Use correct punctuation, full stops, capital letters at the start of sentences and for names of people and places. Use question marks for question sentences.
- Experiment with adjectives for impact.
- Learn how a verb changes in the past tense. Use a consistent past tense for narrative.

Spelling

- Use adverbs and suffixes e.g -ness, -ful, -ment e.g' happiness, joyful'.

Science**Animals, including humans**

- Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults.
- Find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air).
- Describe for humans, the importance of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene.
- Ask simple questions and recognise that they can be answered in different ways.
- Work scientifically, carrying out fair tests and sorting and classifying.

Mathematics**Measurement-Money**

- Recognise and use symbols of pounds and pence.
- Combine amounts to make a particular value.
- Find different combinations of coins that equal same amounts of money.
- Solve simple problems in a practical context involving addition and subtraction, including giving change.

Geometry - Properties of Shapes

- Name and describe 2D and 3D shapes by their properties including number of vertices, faces and edges.
- Compare and sort common 2D and 3D shapes.
- Order and arrange combinations of mathematical objects in patterns and sequences.
- Find the vertical lines of symmetry of simple shapes.
- Describe the position, direction and movement of shapes and right angles.

Fractions

- Recognise, find, name and write fractions $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a length, a shape, a set of objects or quantity.
- Write simple fractions for example $\frac{1}{2}$ of $6 = 3$.
- Recognise the equivalence of $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$.

History - Destination-Outer Space

- To become aware of significant individuals in the past and present who have contributed to international achievements. (Neil Armstrong- first man on the moon, -first British person in space- Helen Sharman, Tim Peake, -present day).
- To become aware of chronology of periods within British and World History.
- Make fact files and timelines of significant events.
- To answer questions by using a specific source, e.g. a photograph, an information book, old news footage e.g. ' launch day'.
- To sequence photographs or objects in chronological order.

PSHCE - keeping safe

- To think about themselves, to learn from their experiences, to recognise and celebrate their strengths and set simple but challenging goals.
- To learn about how to keep their body safe, the importance and danger of medicines.
- To use a growing vocabulary to describe their feelings and simple strategies for managing their emotions.

Art/D.T.

- Can we make a rocket that can fly?
- Design, draw, test a rocket, record our findings.
- Make drawings and collages of planets for display using different paint techniques.

Topic Title**Who is a real-life hero?****Music**

- Children will be learning the language of music through playing the Glockenspiel.
- The children will learn some notes and practise keeping a pulse and exploring rhythm and pitch.
- They will listen to and appreciate a range of music from around the world and listen to songs with a space theme.
- We will be using our on-line music resource 'Charanga'.

PE

- Children will be taking part in Rugby coaching sessions from Warrington Wolves, practising throwing, passing and catching skills.
- The children will be continuing 'Real' P.E skills to develop balance, co-ordination and agility using floor movements and small games.

They will develop these skills through skills based activities, competitive games and ball games.

Please ensure that your child has the correct PE kit in school (blue shorts, white t-shirt, pumps, trainers, a spare pair of socks, dark, plain joggers and jumper).

Please clearly label all PE kit with children's names.

Computing

- Use digital cameras and tablets to take photographs.
- To review, edit and enhance photographs.
- 'We are Games testers'-use 'Scratch' software and other games to work out how the games work and how to play them safely.
- To begin to use simple algorithms.