

Key Stage 1 - Half Term Curriculum Overview

Year 2 2015/2016 - 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 new curriculum this academic year. If you wish to know more about it visit the DfE website, the school website or speak with me.

Catholic life of the school

This half term we will be introducing again our class masses. Each Tuesday two classes will join with the parish to celebrate Mass at 9am. Year 6 and Reception, Year 5 and Year 1, Year 3 and Year 2 and Year 4 will join the parish. Please look out for dates on the weekly newsletter or on the school website.

Each day the children will take part in collective worship. Whole school collective worship begins our week every Monday, followed by class collective worships led by the teachers and children on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. On Fridays there is a key stage assembly.

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.

Also this term the children will be involved in charity work during Lent. We will be taking part in fundraising activities and raising awareness of local charities through the Good Shepherd Appeal for Nugent Care. We will 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:

Fri 8 Jan - Bishop Tom visits the school
Tues 9 Feb - Parents' evening 3.30-6pm
(school closes at 3pm)
Wed 10 Feb - Ash Wednesday Mass
Thur 11 Feb - Parents' evening 5.30-8pm
Fri 12 Feb - End of half term

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.

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.

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. Our class reader for this half term is a wide variety of traditional tales and alternative fairy tales.

Home reading records are checked twice a week, their home reading is acknowledged and a target will be highlighted in the book.

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.

This year as part of our new 3 year Improvement Plan, we are particularly focusing on 'Reading'. 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 weekly '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 topicsBooks-

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 thanks God for Jesus.

EnglishReading

- The children will be reading traditional and alternative versions of traditional tales.
- Understand what they read by: checking that the text makes sense to them, 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.
- Discuss writing similar to that which they are planning to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar.
- 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 bean'.

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

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

Science

- To identify and know the properties of different materials, natural and man-made.
- To learn that some materials can be changed by squashing, bending twisting and stretching. To learn that some materials cannot be changed.
- To understand how some materials can change during heating and cooling.
- To carry out simple experiments and fair testing.

MathematicsNumber - number and place value

- Recognise the place value of 2 and 3 digit numbers.
- Use place value and number facts to solve problems.

Addition and subtraction

- Add and subtract numbers including two 2 digit numbers, adding 3, 1 digit numbers.
- Know that addition can be done in any order but subtraction cannot.
- Solve problems with addition and subtraction using objects and pictorial representations.

Multiplication and division

- Recall multiplication facts for 2, 5 and 10 times tables.
- Calculate multiplication and division sums using signs and solve simple problems.

Measurement

- Use appropriate standard units to measure mass and length (kg, g)
- Tell and write the time to 5 minutes including quarter past and quarter to.
- Know the number of minutes in an hour, the hours in a day and months in a year.
- Find different combinations of coins to make the same amount of money.

Geometry - properties of shapes

- Name and describe 2D and 3D shapes by their properties including number of vertices, faces and edges.
- Find the vertical lines of symmetry of simple shapes.
- Describe the position, direction and movement and in terms of right angles.

History - Life in the past.

- To become aware of chronology of periods within British history.
- To use phrases such as 'before I was born, 'in the past' 'in the present'.
- To give examples of things that are different in their life from that of their Grandparents when they were young.
- To find out about life in the past by talking to an older person.
- To answer questions by using a specific source, e.g a photograph, an information book.
- 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

- To use sketches to express their thoughts and feelings about life in the past.
- Children make observational drawings of toys, clothing and people in the past linked to our History topic.
- Children attempt to create different tones using light and dark, with pencils, pastels and charcoal

Topic Title

What were the people and life like in Warrington 100 years ago?

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.
- Listen and appreciate a range of music from around the world.
- 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 in order 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 items with their name.

Computing

- Use digital cameras and tablets to take photographs.
- To review, edit and enhance their 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.