

Curriculum Overview Spring Term 2024

'The roots to grow, the wings to fly.

All within the love of God.'

English

This term we will be continuing to develop our reading and writing skills through a range of fiction and non-fiction texts linked to our topics, which will be Polar Explorers in the first half term. In the second half term we will be looking at text linked to Marvellous Minibeasts. We will be writing sentences and growing in confidence with our reading fluency.

Maths

The focus for this term will be continuing our deep dive into the numbers from 1-5, now venturing into numbers beyond 5. Our goal this term will be to secure our number facts and to become confident saying how many there is without counting. We will also be exploring pattern and shape this term.

Reading / Phonics

This term in phonics we will be learning our set 3 sounds, which are all digraphs (two letters one sound) and trigraphs (three letters one sound). This will open up many more words for the children to read. Once again, the children will receive a suitable phonics reading book for their ability, **please read these with your child daily**, until they can read the words without hesitation. We will be changing the phonics books on a Wednesday, so please ensure these are in their reading bags daily. Additionally, there will be weekly 'Tricky Words' included on Tapestry, please practice reading these too. We will also be visiting the library again each week to choose a reading for pleasure book.

Forest Schools / The Natural World

Forest School this term will be on a Friday, so please can children arrive in school with their Forest School clothes each Friday. This includes full waterproofs and wellies. Forest School is a wonderful opportunity for the children to explore, experiment and investigate nature. PLEASE MAKE SURE TO BRING ENOUGH LAYERS AND GLOVES AND HATS.

Foundation topics (Understanding the World / Expressive Arts and Design)

During the first half of term, we will be exploring the exciting world of the Arctic! We will be creating some chilly themed paintings, exploring our own arctic worlds, drawing maps, melting ice and looking at some of the famous explorers who travelled to the North and South Poles! We will be kicking this Topic off with an Arctic Day, where children are invited to come into school on the 13th of January dressed up as something or someone from the Arctic - this could be an explorer or an animal or even an iceberg!

After half term, our topic will be 'Growing', allowing us to explore all things farming! We will be growing our own plants in our garden area, watching, documenting and investigating as they grow. We will also be visiting a farm during this term! (See above)

PE / Physical Development

Achieve 4 All are back again this term on a Tuesday. The children did wonderfully in PE last term, impressing us with their gymnastic skills. This term they will be exploring dance and putting together some movement sequences. We will also be doing daily 'Finger Gym' sessions to work on fine motor skills to get ready for more writing.

PSHE / Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Once again, this term we will be focusing on helping the children to self-regulate and evaluate their emotions. We will also be continuing our PSHE conversations and discussions during play, circle time and snack time. Additionally, we will continue our daily "mindful moment" to help develop their self-regulation skills.

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Home Learning

Your support at home is of paramount importance to the success and outcomes of your child throughout their time at school. Please continue the hard work you put in last time by listening to your child read their phonics books for ten minutes each day, practicing their new sounds and tricky words daily (these are trickier than last term, so practice will be key!) and engaging with some maths focused activities each week.

Thank you so much for your support last term, the children made such wonderful progress and it is so exciting to see how much they will grow again this term!

Key dates and events

Thursday 1st February 3pm-4pm: Open classroom

Wednesday 6th March: Author visit - Clare Helen Welsh

Thursday 7th March: World Book Day (children will be encouraged to dress up as a book character)

Friday 8th March: Mother's Day Service in church

Wednesday 13th March: KS2 visit to Exeter Synagogue

Friday 15th March: Red Nose Day

Tuesday 26th March: Explorer Dome visit for the whole school

Tuesday 26th March: Parents' Evening

Wednesday 27th March: Parents' Evening

Wednesday 27th March: Easter Church Service

January 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very Happy New Year to you all! Welcome back! I hope you've had an exciting and fun filled Christmas break and that the children are ready to hit the ground running for their first Spring term!

Please find attached an overview of the main topics and subjects we will be covering in Reception this term as well as a reviewed copy of your child's timetable.

We are lucky to have Mrs Van Aarde will be back supporting Reception this term. Once again, our door is always open so, please do pop in and speak to us if there are any questions or issues that you feel need addressing.

A few key expectations to remember:

- Reading Records will be checked regularly for any messages, and to see what reading your child has been doing at home. Please make a note regarding any reading you do at home; the expectation is at least 10 minutes a day.
- Please ensure your child has a warm coat and water bottle in school. (During the colder weeks, gloves and hats are encouraged - please could these have names in them!)
- We are a school which promotes a healthy and balanced diet. Please ensure that lunchboxes reflect this and that they contain at least one item of fresh fruit or vegetables.
- PE lessons are now on Tuesdays, please can you send your child to school in their school uniform and their PE kit in a bag.
- Forest School is on a Friday, please can children arrive at school in their forest school clothes with additional waterproofs and wellies. Please pop their school uniform, shoes and some spare clothes in their bags.
- We are in need of a parent helper each Friday morning in order to continue the Forest School trips to the Forest. If you are available from 9-12 any Friday this term, please put your name down on a rota that will be in Class 1.

Key dates, information and events appear on our weekly newsletter and in the weekly overview uploaded onto Tapestry.

We are always pleased to welcome you into school if you have concerns about your child's educational or social development or if you would like to volunteer your talents!

Thank you so much for your support, let's have another successful term!

Mrs Nixon