

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW 2018-2019

YEAR 4 ~ SPRING 2nd HALF TERM

Come and See

This half term begins with the topic of 'Giving and Receiving', where the children learn that when we celebrate the Eucharist, Jesus gives himself to us in Word and Sacrament. This complements their sacramental preparation of First Holy Communion.

The children explore how they have given and received from others and understand that we are called to follow the example of Jesus by giving ourselves to others in the world. The children will create art work and stories as well as scripture within this topic.

Finally, in the topic of 'Self Discipline' the children will learn that self-discipline is important. We consider our own experiences about following rules and celebrating how we develop our respect for others and grow personally through self-discipline. We relate this to all areas of the curriculum.



English

During this half term we will be studying 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes and 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane' by Kate Di Camillo. These books will form the main focus and motivation for our writing composition, grammar, reading and speaking and listening. Tasks will involve creating recipes, stories of mystery and suspense as well as places they have been, and newspaper writing. Our grammar focus involves work around the tenses, such as using the present perfect form of verbs in contrast to the past tense. Poetry will use, kennings, cinquain free verse and narrative forms in the approach to World Poetry Day and World Book Day.

Spelling study involves the suffix 'sion' which changes verbs into nouns, then we look at adding 'il'- and revising 'un'-, 'in'-, 'mis'-, 'dis'. Later on we will focus on words of French origin including the 'c' sound spelt '-que' and the 'g' sound spelt '-gue'. The children will continue to improve their reading and comprehension skills throughout their guided reading sessions where they will draw inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence.



A decorative border of green handprints surrounds the text. The handprints are arranged in a circular pattern at the top and bottom, and in vertical columns on the left and right sides. Each handprint is a simple, stylized green shape with five fingers.

Mathematics

In our topic on 'Fractions', the children will be counting in hundredths, writing mixed numbers, showing mixed numbers on a number line, finding equivalent fractions, simplifying mixed numbers and improper fractions, and adding and subtracting fractions. They will continue to apply these skills in a range of contexts and problems.

Later on in the topic on 'Time', they will be telling time on a 24 hour clock, changing minutes to seconds, hours to minutes, years to months and weeks to days. They will also be solving problems on duration of time. The topic on 'Decimals' will provide them with the opportunity to tackle a range of problems that require them to write in tenths and hundredths.

Computing

This half term the children will use software such as 'Lego E-builder' to design and write programmes that accomplish specific goals, including controlling or simulating physical systems, and solve problems by decomposing them into smaller parts. They will also further develop their Digital Literacy: ICT skills to enrich all areas of the curriculum, and conduct further work on E safety.

Learning Challenge Science

In the topic, 'Why is the sound our drums make so joyful?', the children will identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating, recognize that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear, find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it as well as finding patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it. Tasks include making simple paper cup and string speakers, experimenting with liquids placed on dishes over speakers, and interviewing children who require hearing aids. They will also complete tasks, such as recording their drumming from different locations around the school, that help them to recognize that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases.

History

The children are required to study an area of History of interest to them. Therefore, in the Learning Challenge topic, 'Why were Norman castles not bouncy?' the pupils will study the Norman invasion and its impact on Britain. Activities include making 3D models of Motte and Bailey castles, and devising comic strips and films of the battle of Hastings. These activities enable the children to derive an understanding of the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological narrative, from earlier times to the present day, and how people's lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world. The Bayeux Tapestry documents events of this era whilst also providing the children an opportunity to work with textiles.

Creative Arts

Art and DT will be related to the Learning Challenge topics, where they will use experiences, other subjects across the curriculum as inspiration for their art-work. This includes: designing and constructing a Norman Castle, studying the Bayeux Tapestry, and working with textiles, and learning basic cross-stitch.

In Music lessons they will consolidate their understanding of the stave and other musical notations related to percussion with the specialist music teacher. They will also improvise and compose music using the inter-related dimensions of music separately and in combination.



PSHE

The children will focus on Equality and Diversity, and partake in tasks such as role-play and ethical debate. They will make 'Empathy' glasses, which encourage them to see things from somebody else's point of view, especially as we conduct Autism Awareness Day. This half term also features CAFOD led workshops on social justice and global issues.



P.E

The children will choreograph and devise dances, with a special focus on African rhythms to complement their Music lessons. They will learn dance techniques that allow them to work solo, in pairs as well as group ensembles. Outdoor activities include cricket, rounders and athletics, where they will further refine their general co-ordination and mastery of individual games.



French

In the topic 'Celebrating carnival/body parts', the children will learn about parts of the body and simple descriptions about colour, size, etc.

Conversational skills will include asking: Have you ...?

I have -There is / there are

They will also identify and produce singular and plural forms of nouns, by identifying parts of language which are adjectives.

