

Curriculum Overview

Curriculum Overview

Phonics

Phonics is taught daily using the Letters and Sounds progression document. This is a six phase teaching programme that develops children's phonic knowledge and skills. It sets out a detailed and systematic programme for teaching phonic skills for children starting within the Early Years Foundation Stage, with the aim of them becoming fluent readers and have a basic understanding of spelling by the end of Key Stage One. Phonics lessons also focus on the reading and spelling of tricky words that are unable to be decoded phonetically but are essential for children to read and write. Phonics interventions are taught in addition to quality first teaching to all pupils who need it. Parents can click on the link below to find out more about the Letters and Sounds Programme. <http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/>

Reading

The teaching of reading is currently high priority. All pupils are taught to read daily and have many other opportunities to practise and improve their reading skills throughout the week. Pupils are encouraged to read widely and take a book home every day.

In the early years of reading acquisition, pupils first learn to read by sharing simple texts aimed at developing early phonics and sight vocabulary. Colour banded books are read alongside more challenging 'real' books that enables reading comprehension skills to be taught from an early age. As children's confidence develops through improved sight vocabulary, phonics skills and comprehension skills they will thrive as independent readers.

Alongside developing phonics skills and sight vocabulary, reading comprehension continues to be taught throughout KS1 and 2 using a combination of approaches and resources:

- Reading lessons – from September 2017 reading lessons will be taught every day. These have been developed using recent research into the teaching of reading (Reading Reconsidered by Doug Lemov).
- Every child has access to a range of books either in their own classroom or from the school library. All children take quality texts home to read every day and they also have time to read throughout the school day. Every child in year 6 will receive a kindle from September 2017.

Writing

Park View is part of the Primary Writing Project developing 'Talk for Writing' across the school. This is based upon research undertaken by Pie Corbett.

From September 2017, teachers will be focusing on '4 purposes for writing' (Michael Tidd) to ensure that pupils are clear about why they are writing and who they are writing for.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

Grammar, punctuation and spelling is taught throughout school, both explicitly through dedicated lessons and discretely, where appropriate, through all lessons.

Spelling KS1 and Spelling KS2 booklets, specifically designed to be used in class every day and taken home for spelling practice

Handwriting

The school has adopted the 'Penpals' handwriting scheme to support the teaching of handwriting across school.

Most children will be expected to join their writing by the end of Year 2 and to have developed a fluent, confident and individual style of joined writing by the end of Year 6.

Maths

We are currently developing training sessions for staff on the teaching of Maths using the 'White Rose Hub' maths materials. We are focusing on the teaching of conceptual understanding rather than 'process' to ensure that our pupils are able to achieve mastery of maths.

Pupils are encouraged to use a range of resources (such as diennes, numicon and number lines) and teachers regularly use models and images to support understanding of mathematical concepts.

Science, History, Geography and DT

These subjects are taught through topics with a continued focus on developing basic skills in English and Maths. Topic work includes researching historical events and using them as a tool for writing.

As well as this, visits and visitors are organised throughout the year to provide much needed experiences for our children.

ICT

ICT is used across the curriculum to enhance and support learning. Examples include: Online Maths

Interventions, e.g. Third Space Learning in Y6 • Kindle Loan in Year 6 • Accelerated Reader form Y2-Y6 – Online reading comprehension • Y1-Y6 Children can also access home learning activities such as maths and spelling games on the Park View Primary Blog.

PE and Sports

Children in Early Years are provided with a range of physical activities in their ongoing provision that will support and challenge their physical development. Children in KS1 and KS2 develop their physical education both indoors and out in Gymnastics, Sports and Dance.

The children also have an opportunity to participate in after school clubs such as cricket and football. Children also take part in tournaments competing against other schools with great success.

RE

As a multi-faith school which includes children and adults from a wide variety of cultural backgrounds, we value and celebrate the differences and diversity of our setting.

Alongside educating children about different religions and cultures, we teach children the importance of British values.

The Arts

Music – The children have many opportunities to participate in music based activities, which include:

- Drum lessons from a drum instructor
- Singing with a peripatetic singing teacher

Art – Art activities are incorporated into topic work. The school celebrates art at every opportunity and the learning environment is rich in examples of various works of art.

Dance – The children take part in dance activities during PE and after school clubs.

Languages

Different languages are explored and celebrated in every day classroom practice and also. In KS2 the children have the opportunity to learn a Modern Foreign Language.

See also termly plans for each phase – ‘Children’s Learning’