

Curriculum Overview



Our curriculum is a real strength of the school and is enhanced by a wide-ranging programme of creative and performing arts and sport. The curriculum plan and its application ensure breadth and balance and impacts positively on pupils' learning, their personal development, behaviour and welfare. It embraces the National Curriculum; preparing children for the 'opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life' and 'promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society' (National curriculum in England: framework for key stages 1 to 4, DfE, 2014).

Pupils are motivated and enthused by the range of cross-curricular themes, topics and subjects they study. The range of topics encourages pupils to learn and become independent learners; they develop new skills and acquire knowledge. These include linguistic, mathematical and scientific skills, together with artistic and physical skills. Our PSHE scheme together with Protective Behaviours encourages children to develop social skills and to become resilient and self-sufficient in a challenging world.

There are opportunities to participate in residential and adventurous outdoor visits and activities that are rated by the children as 'fantastic' and 'brilliant' experiences. all subjects.

Example 2016 - 2017						
Year Group	Autumn Term		Spring Term		Summer Term	
	1st Half	2nd Half	1st Half	2nd Half	1st Half	2nd Half
Saplings	All About Me	Autumn and Christmas	Where I Live	Journeys	Mini Beasts	Senses
Reception	Marvellous Me	Bears/Celebrations	Fairy Tales and Traditional Stories / Chinese New Year (week 6 19/2/15)	Growing inc. Spring, Jack & the Beanstalk, Holi (6/3/15)	Animals inc. Dinosaurs (5 weeks)	Journeys inc. Transport / My Journey (5 weeks)
Year 1	Sharp Claws and Fluffy Tails	To Infinity and Beyond	Traction Man	Clothes	Castles	Over and Under
Year 2	Elite Explorers	Ferocious Fire / Delicious Dark	Devilish Dragons	Splash Attack	Bon Voyage	Global Gardening
Year 3	Stone Age Boy	The Wreck of the Zephyr	Roman Britain	A Village in Kenya	Leon and the Place Between	Where My Wellies Take Me
Year 4	Animal Magic	Clever Communication	Invaders and Settlers	Marvellous Mountains	Posters, People & Peace	Brilliant Bodies
Year 5 & 6 A	Dough	Mexico	Ancient Greece		Victorians - First Railways	Canals
Year 5 & 6 B	Chocolate	H2O	In the past	Location, Location, Location...	Travelling	Egypt

Curriculum Overview



Our children are at the heart of our **curriculum** – giving them an exciting and inspirational start to their school life and preparing them for the future. Our curriculum is personalised to our school community: it reflects the interests of our children, staff and local area. Our children learn to swim because we are near a canal, we sing carols at the local care home and we visit Cadbury World when we learn about chocolate! Teachers use regular encouragement and genuine praise to engage and motivate pupils which is exemplified in our 'Achievement Assemblies'.

In EYFS:

Young children learn best through play. Saplings (our pre-school) and Reception follow the EYFS curriculum by developing the children's skills in all areas of the curriculum. The happy environment enables our early years' practitioners to provide the children with appropriate play and learning experiences for their stage of development, helping them to learn new skills whilst enjoying a wide range of activities such as dance, drama, music, sports, Forest School, arts and crafts.

In KS1, transition is a focus, with a range of activities planned which underpin a smooth transition for children at the end of the Reception Year. Continuous provision offers children the chance to engage in active learning through hands-on, play-based activities which becomes a more formalized approach to teaching and learning as they progress and develop their learning stamina. There are high demands of pupil involvement and engagement with their learning and every effort is made for children to achieve a secure understanding of phase 6 phonics by the end of KS1.

In Middle Phase (Years 3 and 4 of KS2), this high level of expectation continues with children taking a greater responsibility for their learning and working more independently. There are high levels of collaboration for all pupils and appropriate use of questioning, modelling and explaining by the teacher. Phonics is embedded in the children's learning which moves into the application of spelling rules as their vocabulary and written work becomes more sophisticated.

In Years 5 and 6 (Upper Phase of KS2) the learning is accelerated further to ensure that children are prepared for transition to secondary school. The agreed two-year rolling programme has evolved to ensure highly focused lesson designs have clear-cut objectives. There is an emphasis on learning through dialogue, with regular opportunities for pupils to talk both individually and in groups. Children take a lot of individual responsibility for their own learning and manage their targets efficiently making them assessment literate learners.

Our vulnerable children (SEND) are well supported and we celebrate the children's success by ensuring that their progress is judged by using measurable small steps. Recognizing that our PPG children may have additional needs, we use the grant to support SEMH and ensure that children have additional access to nurture, counselling, support external agencies and Forest School.

Our curriculum relies on a proven strategy that has evolved over time. There are high standards and academic rigour and just as importantly...lots of fun!