

# Curriculum 2014

In September 2014 a new Primary Curriculum came into effect for Year 1 children. The school now follows this curriculum for Year 1 and Year 2 children. The new curriculum enables schools and teachers to be more flexible in the way that they deliver the curriculum and so we have been able to continue with our Topic based approach. The Topics take into account the children's interests whilst ensuring coverage over a two year cycle. The Reception class also follow the schools Topic approach and all year groups study the same Topics at the same time at their own levels. Examples of topics for this year include "Holidays", "Houses", "Toys", "Art", "Space" and "Endangered animals."

## Curriculum Subjects

Two of the core subjects, English and Maths are taught in daily discreet lessons and Science and Computing are taught within the topic and sometimes in discreet lessons. The whole school take part in a daily 20 minute Phonics lesson, when small groups are taken out for booster work. We follow "Letters and Sounds" for our phonics sessions alongside "Jolly Phonics" which is a fun and interactive method of learning sounds and blending. Our main reading scheme is "New Way" which is a phonics based scheme with fun characters to follow. We supplement this scheme with "Oxford Reading Tree" and "PM" books. Some children who struggle with phonics use a look and say scheme called "Ginn 360."

The foundation subjects are taught within the half termly topics, sometimes there may be a History focus e.g. "Houses" or a Geography focus e.g. "Holidays". We choose the Topics, with the children's input, so that teachers can be creative with their planning and so that coverage of the curriculum is ensured. We hold regular special "Theme Days" throughout the year which include "RE Day", "Science Day", "English Day", "Maths Day" and "Summer Craft Day". We also hold special one off days e.g. "Australia Day", "St. George's Day", "Chinese New Year Day" and "July 4<sup>th</sup> Day". These special days really enhance our curriculum. We also take the children on school visits which again enrich our curriculum provision e.g. visit to the pantomime, Staffordshire Hoard at Repton Church. Visitors are welcomed into school to help or talk about a particular subject e.g. fire safety, dental nurse and optician.

## Religious Education

Religious Education is a central part of our school life. The whole school take part in Collective Worship each day coming together for a story, song and reflection time. Collective Worship is led by all teaching staff in turn and children are involved as much as possible, e.g. through drama, reading prayers, discussions and helping with the music in Worship.

Religious Education lessons are delivered following the Derbyshire LA Agreed Syllabus. Christian festivals and Bible stories are studied in depth and other world religions are also studied e.g. Judaism and Sikhism. Our Year 1 and 2 children also have a visit to a Sikh Gurdwara with our local link school.

PSHE also enhances our teaching of values as well as giving the children opportunities to discuss their Rights and Responsibilities, Rights and Wrongs, Feelings and Relationships, Rules and Choices.

The school's "Do Be Values" are reflected in our RE lessons, collective Worship and PSHE lessons.

## Summary of work and parent involvement.

A summary of work is given to parents each half term to ensure that they know what their children will be learning about in school. We ask parents to hear their children read at least 3 times a week and to help their children learn their own individual spellings and sounds and to practise their Maths target. Parents are always welcome to come into school to talk to a teacher if they would like more information on the curriculum or particular topic area.