

We endeavour to create a friendly, happy family atmosphere, welcoming parents, visitors and the wider community into our school to support our core purpose of ensuring all children learn. All members of the Governing Board and the staff feel it is their responsibility to empower every child to achieve academic, social and personal recognition for their efforts. We are all committed to developing a learning environment where everyone can create, perform, think, explore and investigate for themselves.

The basic skills of English and Mathematics are critical to a child's education and self-esteem and so these are taught every day. Our children read and write every day, enjoying stories, poetry, information books, letters, diaries, persuasive accounts, discussions, the list is endless. Through sharing books together, the children learn how to plan, draft, edit and present their own ideas. Time is spent teaching spelling and how to identify and use grammar and punctuation for writerly effect. They learn how to be good speakers and listeners in a group and over time, they develop a pride in their handwriting and presentation.

In Reception to the end of Year 1, the children undertake a daily phonics programme called Read, Write, Inc which teaches the early skills of sound recognition to be able to blend and segment words. Much valuable time is spent rehearsing, remembering and re-writing simple sentences so our youngest children quickly feel like emerging independent readers and writers.

In Mathematics, children are helped to understand how the number system works and what really happens when you add, subtract, multiply and divide numbers. Maths is taught using real life problems with money, measures, time and shape. Daily emphasis is placed on number bonds, mental calculations, the multiplication tables, estimation and fluency. Concrete apparatus and pictures are used every day throughout the school so that all children can visualise and manipulate mathematics before we expect them to master abstract concepts. All children are encouraged to actively talk in pairs to reason, discuss, explain and question the maths learning to be better able to remember and understand fully. We hope Mathematics is interesting, fun and collaborative in school, inspired by a wide range of interactive resources and technology.

Activities linked to spelling, writing and mental arithmetic are sent home on a weekly basis to support these subjects. All children have a reading book to take home every day and the youngest children have a bedtime book to share together.

Science in school is experienced first-hand through experimentation, discovery, and observation. The children are encouraged to be inquisitive, curious and questioning; *"I listen and I forget, I see and I remember, I do and I understand"*.

They investigate the human body, plants and animals (Biology), forces, magnetism, electricity, sound and light (Physics), rocks and minerals, solids, liquids and gases (Chemistry), the Earth, Sun and Moon and materials and their properties at various times through their school career, building on and increasing their knowledge, skills and understanding each time.

Computing prepares the children for a rapidly changing world where work and play have access to developed technical systems. It is mainly concerned with learning how to use and programme computers and software confidently, but children also use cameras, ipads and audio equipment. With parental permission, children will explore the Internet, spreadsheets, word processing packages, email and control technology to support and enrich learning across the curriculum. These are all vital tools to help children access and demonstrate their learning but time must be spent teaching them how to stay safe online and harness the positive impact of technology in their lives.

Religious Education is taught throughout school so that children understand the traditions, rites of passage and beliefs for the worshippers of Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Judaism. They can learn from their stories of how to lead a good and full life. They will look at the special books each religion has and explore what those texts teach and what meaning they hold. They will explore the place religion has in our society today and how everyone is respected for their points of view.

Design Technology is a practical subject which involves the children planning, designing, making and evaluating their own products using a variety of materials such as fabric, wood, card, food, techno-kits and recycled rubbish. Children will undertake many challenges and gradually improve their creative skills, becoming more and more independent.

Physical Education is vital to our well-being and so the children access two hours of structured physical activity every week. We encourage everyone to enjoy sport and be successful at their own personal level, making participation a positive experience. Dance and gymnastics are also an integral part of our physical education programme. Years 1 and 2 enjoy swimming lessons. There are also opportunities for every child to participate in inter-schools' sporting occasions, often at our local secondary schools.

History for our youngest children is all about the changes in their own lives and those of their families, especially their grandparents. Later, they will become fascinated by castles, knights, battles, 1066 and all that!

In Key Stage Two, they will learn from and about significant people and events in Ancient Egypt, Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome, their legacy on future civilisations and the impact on Medieval Britain during the Anglo Saxon and Viking periods. They will also learn about the local history of Willoughby, birthplace of the Tudor Explorer, Captain John Smith. They will learn how to use artefacts, secondary evidence and writings to gain historical insights. Knowledge and understanding will be enriched through visits, visitors and theatre groups, bringing history alive and visual.

Geography for our youngest children will be all about people and places in their locality and a contrasting area in the British Isles. They will use maps, atlases and photographs to locate places. Later, they will apply their geographical skills to study the people and places in Kenya, Africa.

In Key Stage Two, the children will look at the impact of physical and human changes on the environment especially in North and South America. They will consider their global responsibility for our fragile world, enjoying visits to the coast, a local nature reserve and cities further away from our rural location. Field studies will include river work, mapping, data collection and surveys. It is critical that we bring the world to our children so that they can aspire to become explorers, travellers, eco-warriors, drawing pleasure and pride in the natural environment.

Art enables all children to explore and create from observation and the imaginary through painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, collage, printmaking, clay and textiles. They will explore the elements of Art through every medium and are supported to find enjoyment and pleasure in the creative process. Their work is often inspired by a variety of famous and local artists and we regularly have a special week devoted to the Arts. Our children's work in the Arts has been recognised by the **National Arts Council and The Mighty Creatives**.

Music is an opportunity for our children to sing and make music together, sharing their own and others' songs, often culminating in public performances. They will listen to, review, and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles, and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians. They will explore how music is created, produced, and

communicated using pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

Spanish

In the early stage, children will spend much of their time listening, speaking, and interacting orally and will be given regular and frequent opportunities to listen to a good model of pronunciation. Children will listen to the teacher, to songs and rhymes, to each other and to native speakers, to recorded and on-line speech and songs, recognising familiar and unfamiliar sounds. They will reproduce these sounds themselves and create phrases and sentences. They will engage in simple conversations to obtain and provide information and exchange opinions. They will learn how to read and write simple words, phrases and sentences, using the language of everyday life - greetings, numbers, family life, interests, school and home and social situations.

Relationships, Sex, Health Education

This carefully planned programme will be taught alongside Science and PSHE to make the learning connections. It will discuss real life issues relating to the age and stage of pupils, including friendships, families, consent, relationship abuse, exploitation, and safe relationships online.

In Sex Education:

5-7 year olds will explore the differences between the sexes, growth and change from the foetus to an adult and the correct terminology for the main external parts of their body.

7-9 year olds will explore the changes that take place in puberty, the process of reproduction within a caring relationship, roles and responsibilities and the development and needs of an unborn baby.

9-11 year olds will explore difficult questions young people have during this period of change and the mixed messages received about sex.