



Kilham Church of England (V.C) Primary School
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Headteacher: Mr R Palmer

Sunday, 8th December 2019.

Curriculum Update:

Dear parents and carers,

Earlier this year Kilham Church of England Primary School sent out a parental survey using the online platform Survey Monkey as part of our work to gather your views on our new Christian vision and our developing curriculum. Thank you once again to all of the parents who shared their views, it is important to us as a school that we gather and then respond to your views.

As a school, we are always reflecting on our curriculum provision and making sure that we provide a broad and balanced curriculum with opportunities for all children to shine. In response to our question "Do you think we need a greater emphasis on any particular curriculum subject" parents responded with -See attachment 1.

More emphasis on:

Cooking linked to DT

Computing

Modern Foreign Languages – Spanish

Reading

At a recent governor meeting of our Curriculum, Assessment and Pupil Welfare Committee we discussed the outcomes of the parental survey which interestingly (but not surprisingly) matched a staff survey about critical areas of the curriculum that need developing.

As a school we will be initiating some exciting curriculum projects shortly which will include:

Cookery- As a staff, we recognised that progressive and high-quality cookery provision was an area that we need to improve. We have therefore allocated additional funding to this area which has been strongly supported with a large donation from the Parents Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA). In the near future, we hope to launch the opportunity for children across the school to engage in regular cooking activities as well as learning:

In Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2), children will be taught:

- To use the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet to prepare dishes
- To understand where food comes from

Key Stage 2 children (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) will learn:

- To understand and apply the principles of a healthy and varied diet
- To prepare and cook a variety of predominantly savoury dishes using a range of cooking techniques
- To understand seasonality and know where and how a variety of ingredients are grown, reared, caught and processed

Computing –

Computing is a personal passion of mine and working with the staff and governors we are looking seriously at the provision we provide across the school. Part of the challenge at Kilham School is the budget and the high expense of class sets of i-pads or laptops which could be used in classrooms to support learning. As part of our work to improve this area of our curriculum the governors have set up a working party to investigate upgrading our wifi provision which is very poor and looking into leasing ICT equipment on a rolling programme. Part of this work will also look at providing teacher professional development to understand the concepts of writing algorithms and simple programs.

Spanish –

The Local Authority has recently done some research around the delivery of modern foreign languages in primary schools and how this affects the take-up of languages in secondary school. Due to falling numbers of children taking up languages at secondary school, they have invested considerable resources in improving the delivery of languages at primary schools. Mrs Dowkes our Modern Foreign Languages subject leader has been on recent training delivered several staff meetings that are designed to raise the profile of Spanish across Kilham School – this is a work in progress, but if we have any parents who are confident with speaking Spanish, please contact the school if you can offer any support.

Reading -

As a school, we have already spent considerable finances updating our phonetically decodable reading stock, purchasing new half class sets of books to support our Booktalk and Reciprocal Reading approaches. The school has also invested in new story sacks in EYFS and tried to engage with parents helping their children at home. We will soon be sending out another parental survey to look at our approach to reading and work with parents to improve this most critical area of our curriculum provision.

As well as these significant pieces of work we are also looking at making our approach to the teaching of science more practical with children taking part in experiments on a more regular basis and using their findings from these experiments in their written work.

Kilham School is also trying (when the weather improves) to make outdoor learning and interaction with outdoor spaces a regular entitlement for all of the children.

Finally, we are working together as a staff team to provide children with opportunities to discover the wider world through elements of our geography lessons; this was highlighted in question one of our Survey Monkey questionnaires.

I hope that this information updates you on some of the significant changes we are putting in place to make the curriculum at Kilham School, engaging exciting and cross-curricula. All of the staff and governors are on board with this 2-year project. Thank you to all of the parents who responded to our questionnaire, we value your opinions and hope that you can see from this letter that we also react to your views

If you can support any of our curriculum developments or have any other ideas about how to improve things across the school, please speak to the governors, staff or call in to see me.

Yours sincerely

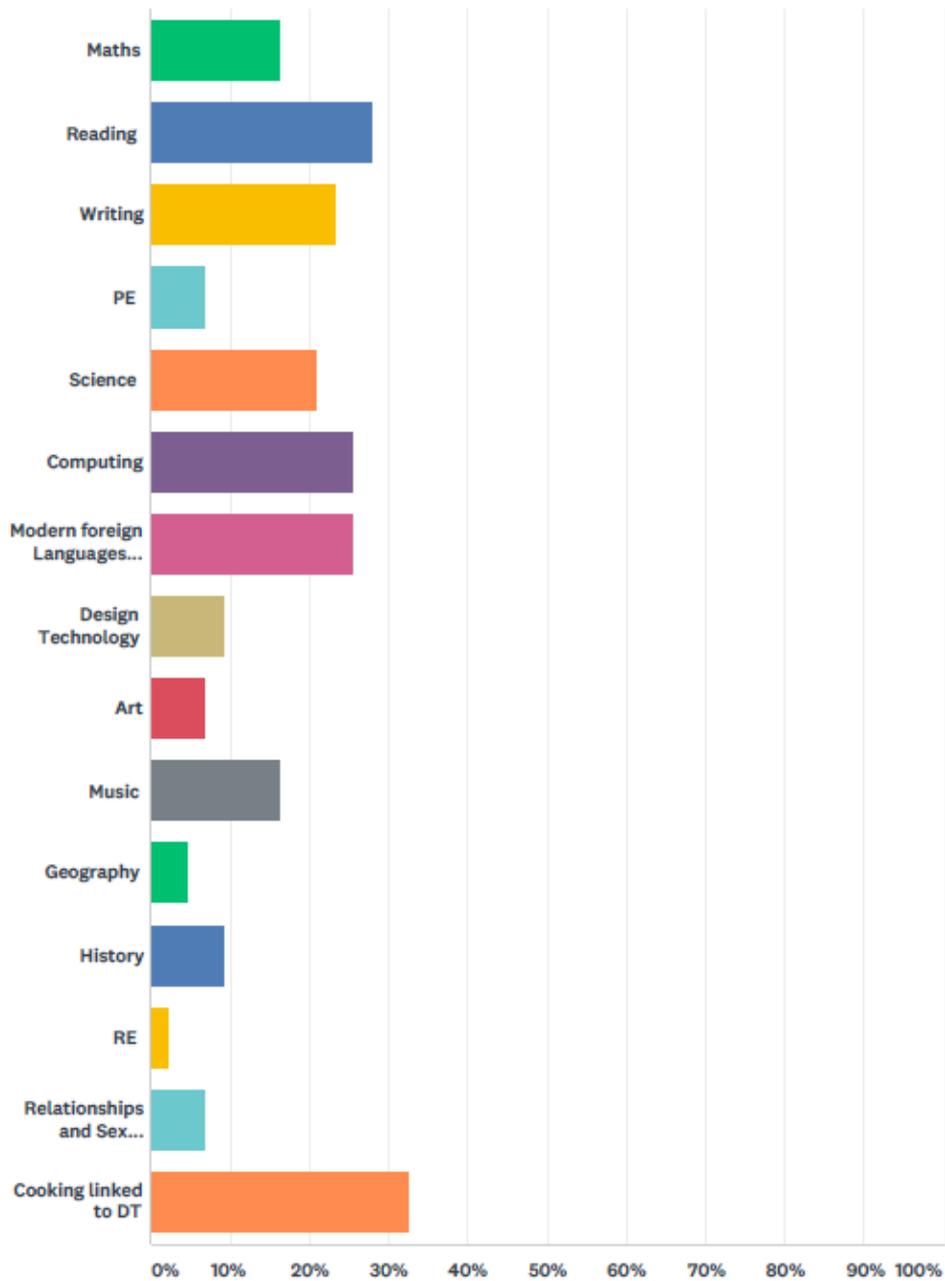


Robert Palmer
Headteacher

Attachment 1.

Q6 Do you think we need to give a greater emphasis to any particular curriculum subject?

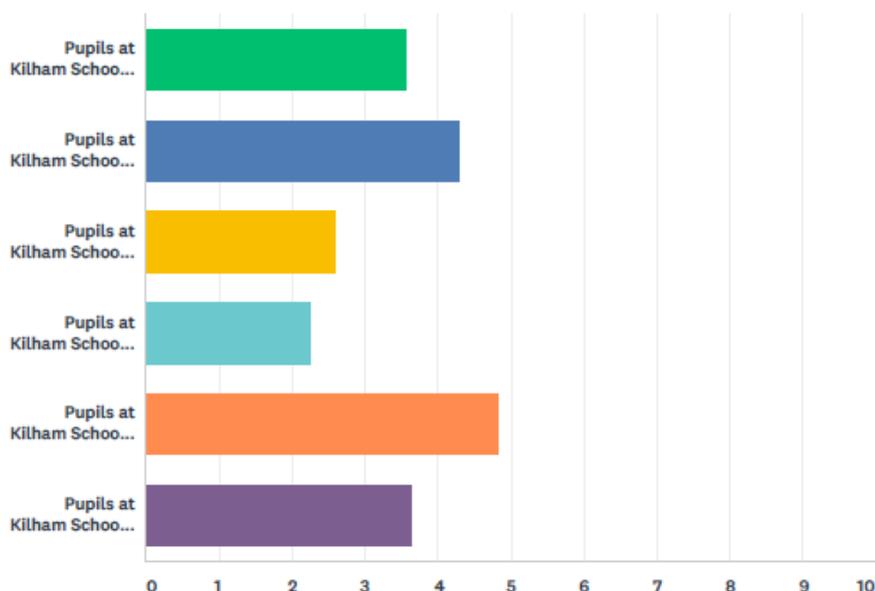
Answered: 43 Skipped: 11



Appendix 2

Q1 As part of our work on our school curriculum staff have discussed key areas of the curriculum that the school will work on next year. Please rank these statements in order of importance for experiences our children should engage with. 1 is the highest importance.

Answered: 52 Skipped: 2



	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL	SCORE
Pupils at Kilham School would benefit from more trips to urban centres.	12.50% 6	18.75% 9	16.67% 8	25.00% 12	20.83% 10	6.25% 3	48	3.58
Pupils at Kilham School would benefit from being exposed to a wider range of multi cultural experiences.	23.40% 11	25.53% 12	23.40% 11	12.77% 6	12.77% 6	2.13% 1	47	4.28
Pupils at Kilham School would benefit from being exposed to a wider range of religious experiences.	0.00% 0	10.00% 5	10.00% 5	26.00% 13	38.00% 19	16.00% 8	50	2.60
Pupils at Kilham School would benefit from opportunities for more overnight residential experiences.	8.33% 4	4.17% 2	10.42% 5	12.50% 6	10.42% 5	54.17% 26	48	2.25
Pupils at Kilham School would benefit from having a deeper understanding of the wider world.	46.00% 23	20.00% 10	16.00% 8	10.00% 5	6.00% 3	2.00% 1	50	4.84
Pupils at Kilham School would benefit from understanding more about climate change and the plight of refugees.	11.76% 6	25.49% 13	21.57% 11	13.73% 7	11.76% 6	15.69% 8	51	3.65

Pupils from Kilham School would benefit from having a deeper understanding of the wider world – 4.84 highest score.