

Introduction

This guide is intended to support parents of children at Keighley St Andrew's Church of England Primary School & Nursery. The guide will provide you with an overview of the new national curriculum. We hope that by reading this you will be able to support your child in making the best of their time at the school.

Changes in the curriculum

English, Maths and Science remain the core subjects in education. The National Curriculum sets out in some detail what must be taught in these subjects, and they will take up a significant part of your child's learning week.

Alongside these are the foundation subjects: Art, Computing, Design & Technology, Geography, History, Music, and Physical Education. For these subjects the objectives are much briefer and the school has flexibility in how these are delivered.

The new curriculum has much higher expectations than in previous years and the content is very demanding. In mathematics there is now emphasis on arithmetic and working with fractions. In English lessons there will now be more attention paid to the study of grammar and spelling.

If your child is achieving well, rather than moving on to the following year group's work we will encourage more in-depth and investigative work, allowing a greater mastery and understanding of concepts and ideas.

Tests your child will take

As part of assessment Keighley St Andrew's tests are used as part of a normal classroom routine, and support teachers' judgements. The National Curriculum Tests are compulsory for children at the end of Year 2 and Year 6 which are often informally known as 'SATs', Children in these year groups will undertake tests in Reading, Mathematics, and Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling. The tests will be sent away for marking, and results will be reported to schools and parents at the end of the year.

The new National Curriculum Tests for children in Year 2 and Year 6 will take place each summer from 2016. Children in other year groups may also have tests around the same time.

Where previously these tests – and other teacher assessments – were graded in levels (normally numbering between Level 1 and Level 6 in primary school) at Keighley St Andrews Primary School, we assess children using the descriptors of emerging, developing, secure and mastery.

At all stages of your child's education we will provide you with the information as to how your children is progressing.

Mathematics in Year 2

In year 2, there is a big focus on developing basic number skills. That means securing a good understanding of place value, and recognising number bonds to 20. Practising these skills frequently will help children's mathematical thinking throughout school.

Number bonds are essential to the understanding of maths. Children in Year 2 learn their number bonds to 20, that is being able to quickly recall the total of any two numbers up to 20, e.g. $5 + 9 = 14$, rather than having to count on to find the answer.

At the end of Year 2, all children will sit the National Curriculum Tests for Key Stage 1. This will include a short arithmetic test of 15 questions, and a second paper of broader mathematics which will last around 35 minutes

Number and Place

- Recognise place value in two-digit numbers, e.g. knowing that the 1 in 17 represents 10
- Read and write numbers up to 100 as words
- Count in 2s, 3s and 5s
- Compare and order numbers up to 100
- Use the $<$ and $>$ symbols to represent the relative size of numbers

Fractions

- Find $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ of an object or set of objects
- Find the answer to simple fraction problems, such as finding $\frac{1}{2}$ of 6.

Calculations

- Recall number bonds up to 20 fluently
- Add and subtract numbers mentally and using objects, including two-digit numbers

- Show that adding two numbers can be done in any order, but subtracting cannot
- Recognise that addition and subtraction are inverse operations
- Learn the multiplication and division facts for the 2x, 5x and 10x tables
- Show that multiplying two numbers can be done in any order, but dividing cannot
- Solve problems using the \times and \div symbols

Measurements

- Use standard units to measure length (centimetres and metres), mass (grams and kilograms), temperature (degrees Celsius) and capacity (millilitres and litres)
- Use the \pounds and p symbols for money amounts
- Combine numbers of coins to make a given value, for example to make 62 pence
- Tell the time to the nearest five minutes on an analogue clock
- Know the number of minutes in an hour and hours in a day

Shape

- Identify the number of sides and a line of symmetry on 2-d shapes
- Identify the number of faces, edges and vertices on 3-d shapes
- Use mathematical language to describe position and direction, including rotations and turns

Graphs and Data

- Construct and understand simple graphs such as bar charts and pictograms

Parents can always take a lead role in practical maths. Encouraging your child to help with the purchasing of small items at the newsagent, or measuring themselves and others, is a great way to start exploring number relationships.

English in Year 2

As children move through Key Stage 1, children will secure the basic skills of decoding to become fluent readers. As their reading confidence grows they can begin to write their own ideas down.

Decoding is the ability to read words aloud by identifying the letter patterns and matching them to sounds. Once children are able to 'decode' the writing, they can then start to make sense of the words and sentences in context. Watch out for hard-to decode words such as 'one' and 'the'. These just have to be learned by heart.

At the end of Year 2, all children will sit the National Curriculum Tests for Key Stage 1. These will include two short reading tests, a grammar and punctuation test, and a spelling test of ten words.

Speaking and Listening

- Articulate and justify answers and opinions
- Give well-structured explanations and narratives, for example in show-and-tell activities

Reading Skills

- Read words aloud confidently, without obvious blending or rehearsal
- Learn letter patterns so that decoding becomes fluent and secure by the end of Year 2
- Blend letter sounds, including alternative patterns, e.g. recognising 'ue' as the 'oo' sound
- Read aloud words which contain more than one syllable
- Recognise common suffixes, such as -ing and -less
- Read words which don't follow phonetic patterns, such as 'one' and 'who'
- Become familiar with a wide range of fairy stories and traditional tales
- Discuss favourite words and the meaning of new words

- Check that what has been read makes sense, and selfcorrect reading where necessary
- Make predictions about what might happen next in a story

Writing Skills

- Form letters of the appropriate size, using capital letters where appropriate
- Use appropriate spaces between words when writing
- Begin to use joins between letters where needed
- Spell longer words by breaking them into their sound parts
- Learn to spell some common homophones, recognising the difference between them
- Use the possessive apostrophe in simple phrases, such as 'the boy's football'.
- Write about real events and personal experiences
- Plan out writing in advance, including by writing down key words
- Re-read writing to check that it makes sense and to make corrections, including punctuation
- Use question marks, exclamation marks, apostrophes and commas in lists
- Use the present and past tenses correctly in writing
- Begin to write longer sentences by using conjunctions, such as 'and', 'but', 'if' or 'because'

Homophones are words which sound the same, such as 'blue' and 'blew', or 'one' and 'won'

Parent Tip

Reading aloud at home continues to be vitally important at this age. You may even get your child to read their own writing aloud, attempting to add expression appropriate to the sentence.

Science in Year 2

As with all areas of the curriculum at Keighley St Andrews the science curriculum is based around real-life experiences for children. This includes everyday plants and animals, as well as finding out about different materials and the four seasons. Children will have lots of opportunities for exploring science both in the classroom and the local area.

Scientific Investigation

Children are encouraged to carry out their own observations and experiments to further their scientific understanding. In Year 2 this may include learning to:

- Use scientific apparatus to make observations, such as magnifying glasses
- Collect information about what they have seen
- Make links between observations and their scientific understanding Living Things and their Habitats.
- Compare the difference between things which are alive, which are dead, and which have never been alive
- Understand that different animals are suited to different habitats
- Identify some plants and animals in different habitats
- Describe how animals feed on other plants or animals

Habitats are simply the different types of places living things are found. This can range from the vast, such as oceans and rainforests, through to local features such as rock pools, or to the small, such as under a single log.

Plants

- Describe how seeds or bulbs grow into plants
- Understand that plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow

Animals including Humans

- Notice that all animals have offspring which grow into adults, including humans
- Know about the basic survival needs of animals, such as food, water and air
- Describe the importance of exercise, healthy diet and hygiene to humans

Everyday Materials

- Identify and compare the uses of different materials including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard
- Find out how some solid objects can be changed by squashing, bending or stretching

Parent Tip

Growing your own plants or flowers at home can be an exciting – if slow – process for children to take part in. Why not try some quick-growing seeds such as cress or mustard, as well as something more substantial planted in the garden, and watch how the processes of growth are similar for all plants?

At certain times of year you may also be lucky enough to witness some of the growth cycle in animals, such as tadpoles in a pond, or lambing season at the local farm.

The Foundation Subjects

The foundation subjects play a key part in providing a broad and balanced curriculum. Additionally your child will be taught RE using the Bradford RE syllabus.

As a school we have developed progressive key skills for each curriculum area.

Art

An artist in Year 2 should be able to:

- Talk about their ideas (from their imagination or real starting points)
- Describe how art has been created (colour, tone, line, shape, media, texture, composition)
- Comment on their work and others and suggest ways of improving it
- Use paint programs to draw and edit pictures
- Paint pictures using a variety of paints and brushes and paint they have mixed themselves (primary and secondary colours, as well as tints and tones)
- Draw lines of different sizes, thickness, shape, tone, pattern and texture using a variety of media
- Explore how print is used in everyday life
- Create prints in response to a piece of art/design using pressing, rolling, rubbing and stamping
- Create a collage (group/individual) using a variety of materials, textures, colours, patterns and appearances
- Create a patchwork of dip-dyed fabrics/threads by joining them together (gluing, stitching and plaiting)
- Make pots and sculptures from clay, with lines, shape and texture

Computing

There are three main strands of the new Computing curriculum: information technology, digital literacy and computer science.

A computer user in Year 2 should be able to:

- communicate ideas using technology.
- evaluate different kinds of technology.
- create, store and retrieve information.
- understand the need for privacy with passwords.
- use communication technology safely.
- create, debug and explain simple programs.
- explain the need for accurate algorithms.

Design and Technology

Designers in Year 2 should be able to:

- Draw and talk about their own ideas and features of products.
- Talk about what is good and what to improve in own and others' work.
- Make a simple textile product, measuring in cm, cutting, joining using glue, staples, simple stitch for a purpose.
- Create a food product by following a recipe and describe how it tastes.
- Talk about how food can be farmed, grown or caught.
- Make a structure from a variety of materials and talk about it e.g. how to make it stronger, and use DT words e.g. folding, joining, shape, columns, triangles.
- Make a moving product and talk about the material choices that are suited for the job.

Geography

Geographers in Year 2 should be able to:

- Describe places in a variety of ways using geographical words.
- Talk about places, mark and identify them on a map (UK/world).
- Ask questions and find out about a place.
- Draw own maps of places using grid references and symbols.
- Talk about the differences between towns, villages etc.
- Give opinions about places and say why.
- Explain how places have become as they are e.g. lots of shops brings people.
- Explain how a place changes and why.
- Describe how places are linked across the world e.g. sea, paths, roads
- Talk about and locate continents, oceans, equator and tropics.
- Keep a record of weather including temperature and rainfall.
- Talk about different ways a locality can be improved.

History

Historians in Year 2 should be able to:

- Talk about the past and present using appropriate vocabulary e.g. recently, when their parents were children, decades, centuries
- Order people, objects and events using a given scale
- Ask historical questions and use information to help answer them
- Describe people, objects and events through writing, diagrams, models and timelines

- Use a wide variety of sources to find out about the past

Physical Education

A sports person in Year 2 should be able to:

- Talk about their own and others performances and say how it can be improved.
- Copy and remember actions and move with careful co-ordination.
- Explain how their body feels during exercise and warm up properly.
- Plan a sequence of movements which are controlled and balanced on different points of their body.
- Choose movements to communicate a mood or feeling.
- Explain tactics for games using the correct vocabulary.
- Use a variety of balls to roll, hit, catch and kick.

Music

Musicians in Year 2 should be able to:

- Talk about the beat, changes in timbre, dynamics and pitch in music.
- Participate in performing songs with others; make long and short sounds with voices and instruments.
- Order, record and choose sounds to create effects for different purposes.
- Compose short musical patterns and short rhythmical phrases

Languages

Foreign languages are not a compulsory part of study in Year 2