

WHOLE SCHOOL PRIORITIES 2016-17

The following priorities are the particular areas we will be focusing on as a school during the new academic year. All schools choose priorities to work on each year and these are always discussed and agreed with the school's governing body. Inset Days and staff meeting time are always used to support the development of this work and parents will often find that invitations to curriculum weeks are also linked to the main priorities.

Priority One – Literacy

This year our literacy priority will focus on writing, aiming for all children to write to the best of their ability in all areas of the curriculum. This year we are also focusing on spelling; not just learning spellings but being able to apply learned spelling rules in their own writing.

This priority will include the following actions –

- INSET time and staff meeting time will be used for staff development and training in this area of the curriculum
- Curriculum week – November 2016 – all parents will be invited into literacy lessons to see how the children in each year group develop their writing skills and to learn about the expectations for all year groups.
- Parents in F2, Y1, Y2 and Y6 will be invited to meetings to find out more about literacy and what the expectations are for their child by the end of the school year and how they, as parents, can help at home.
- Spelling – children will take home spellings to learn. Children will be tested weekly and expected to use their learnt spellings in their every day writing. Spelling tests will include words with similar word patterns to those sent home and not necessarily the exact ones sent for homework; our aim is to encourage children to apply their skills to new words, not just those they have learnt by rote
- We want all children to sustain focus on a piece of writing over a number of lessons; to re read, check and where appropriate re draft their writing – we want them to be resilient writers!
- Handwriting will be taught according to our school handwriting policy in all year groups.

- We will continue to support phonics with identified groups of children, as well as whole class teaching in Y1 and Y2 to ensure that as many children as possible meet the required standard by the end of Y1 or Y2

Priority Two – Numeracy

In numeracy this year, school is purchasing a new maths scheme to support the teaching of maths throughout school.

The priority will include the following actions –

- A new scheme has been purchased, staff will receive training at the beginning of November and begin using the scheme thereafter
- In the second half of the autumn term, parents will receive information about the maths scheme and the parts which will be accessible to children at home for home work activities
- Staff meeting and Inset time will be used by staff for training on the new scheme
- The scheme will set out the key skills and expectations in maths teaching for all year groups
- Y2 and Y6 parents will be invited to a meeting so that teachers can explain the end of year expectations for the children in these classes
- Nationally there is a renewed focus on children applying their maths skills and being able to use their reasoning skills and parents will find this in the new scheme but will also be invited to maths lessons in curriculum week in the first half of the spring term 2017
- Teacher marking and feedback will be consistent in all books and show children what to do next in their maths
- Maths homework will help children consolidate the maths they are currently working on in maths and staff hope that parents will support their child's learning by encouraging them to do their homework and return it to school on time

Priority Three – in this priority we are continuing to use the Sport Premium to promote sport and physical activity in the following ways –

- The dance teacher, Mrs Wells, has been booked to deliver dance lesson for all classes which will also support teachers in the teaching of dance as part of our PE curriculum. This will take place in the spring term 2017.
- The Daily Mile will be introduced and all children will run, jog or walk around a route in the school grounds for 15 minutes each day
- Parents will be invited to join in a daily mile session during Healthy School Week in October 2016
- A sports coach will be employed at lunchtimes to engage more children in physical activity at lunchtimes, especially in KS2
- Increase the morning sport club to five days each week for all classes in school. This will be run by SJD Sports
- Sport ambassadors and sport council in KS2 will lead on some lunchtime sport activities as well as other aspects of sport in school
- Children will be encouraged to walk to school at least once a week through the national Living Streets scheme. Children will be able to earn a badge each month of they meet this target of walking to school once each month

Priority Four – RE

In the subject of RE we want to ensure that teacher on going assessment records what the children achieve in this subject

- RE will be assessed termly; this will reflect attainment linked to the RE Agreed Syllabus and will be recorded on Chris Quigley assessment used in Years One to Six
- Monitoring of this will show that attainment is measured and recorded consistently across school which will give a whole school view of attainment in RE All staff to use the CQ subject leader document for RE, make links to the Rotherham Agreed Syllabus and assess children’s attainment at the end of each term and the end of the year and milestone. Ensure that teachers plan for the more able children to be “deep” learners in RE
- RE Coordinator to collate coverage each year to ensure that all children receive the statutory entitlement of RE

- Our RE curriculum, taught in all year groups, has a key focus on Christianity, with other world religions also being taught to develop children's understanding of other beliefs and customs

Priority Five - ICT

This priority will continue to develop the use of Ipads in all classes as well as the new interactive screens installed in all classes in autumn 2016

- We will be working this year to increase staff IT skills to support teaching and learning in a range of curriculum areas in all year groups
- We will provide opportunities for all children to use Ipads and the interactive screens to enhance their learning in different subjects as well as developing their ICT skills in a range of contexts and curriculum areas
- We will continue to raise awareness amongst children and parents to make sure that children know how to use ICT equipment and software in a safe and responsible way, both at home and at school and will also continue to raise parental awareness of the importance of children using the internet safely at home and at school. We will continue to send parents information about internet safety.

Thank you to all our parents for their support during the school year, we really appreciate your interest in your child's education; I hope you will be able to join in with the curriculum weeks during 2016-17 and any meetings or workshops which will show parents the work we are undertaking to meet our current school priorities.

Mrs S Mellor

Head Teacher

