



# Stoberry Park School, Wells, Somerset

Tel: 01749 672516 ~ Headteacher Michael Hawkins

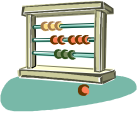
## Year 1/2 Curriculum Overview Autumn 2011

Welcome back! We hope you are all relaxed after the summer break. This newsletter will help to give an insight into some of the topics we will be covering this term.

### Numeracy

This year we will be continuing with the Daily Maths programme and Olympic Maths. This involves the children carrying out twenty to forty calculations in five minutes at some point in the day and knowing their number bonds and tables more confidently. This is repeated daily and the idea is that the children aim to improve their own results and progress to the next level or medal.

Normal Numeracy sessions continue each day and this term we are covering counting and understanding number, using number facts, problem solving, addition and subtraction calculations, measures and shape and space.



### Literacy

This term we are covering poetry, stories with familiar settings, and instructional texts.

The children learn a different spelling pattern each week as part of their homework, this supports the phonics learnt in class. We continue to focus on the techniques of building sentences and adding punctuation in order to improve children's writing. There is a continuing emphasis on enjoyment and excellence through creative and integrated activities and as much as possible on teaching different skills through topic related work.



### Science

The topic for the first half term is 'Ourselves.' We will be identifying and locating parts of their bodies, including the sense organs. Children will use their observation skills to point out the differences between humans and other animals and between animals and non-living things. Next half term we are studying 'Light and dark' where children will name a number of light sources and learn that darkness is an absence of light and recognize and understand why they cannot see in the dark. This unit of work will also offer opportunities for the children to relate their understanding of Science to everyday experiences of light and darkness and to health and safety, for example, explaining why it is dangerous to look at the sun.



### ICT

Our main focus this term will be to become more confident with using the computer to produce text on a page and add other features to it. We will also be using 'Talking Text ease' and 'Talking Books.' Both of these will encourage a higher profile of ICT across all curriculum subjects. We will also be starting to use and make resources for the 'PLATFORM' for children and parents to access at home. Regular updates as to this situation will be sent home to inform you of its progress. Please remember that you will need a password to access this site. This will be sent out to you at the start of term.



### Design & Technology

This half term children will be making a home. This will give the children opportunities to develop their understanding of structures. They will initially be looking at and talking about different types of buildings to draw on when developing their own ideas. Children will have the opportunity to develop and model their ideas by creating static models from sheet and reclaimed materials and using construction kits. They will gain a basic understanding about structures and how these can be made stronger and more stable. In D&T during the second half of the Autumn Term children will be making a puppet using marking out, cutting and joining skills. They will initially be looking at a selection of puppets in class, so if you have any at home that children would like to bring in to share in this experience that would be great. Please remember to clearly display the child's name on the puppet so we can avoid puppets not making it back to their rightful owners! We will also be focusing on the theme of 'Shadow Puppets' and how these effects are created, linking to our Science theme of 'Light and Dark.'



### Art

As Christmas approaches we will be using a variety of media and materials to produce Christmas crafts and paintings ready for our Nativity and to decorate the classroom and children's homes.

### History & Geography

Our topic for the first half term is a History focus titled 'Homes long ago.' This unit of work looks at similarities and differences between homes today and homes in the past. Children will look closely at features of buildings, household objects and stories about home life are used to enable children to develop criteria to distinguish between old and new, and to learn about life at a time beyond living memory. After half term we will be continuing with our History focus. This unit is titled 'How do we know about the Great Fire of London?' This unit links an important event beyond living memory in British history with a famous person, Samuel Pepys. Children will also develop their sense of chronology and consider why the Great Fire happened; its results; and the different ways it is represented.

### Physical Education

This term in Gymnastics we will be focusing on travelling and introducing the key gymnastics shapes including star, straight, tuck and L shapes. Children will be working towards creating a simple sequence of movement with control and balance. Willow and Ash will be taking part in a Multiskills unit which will develop the children's spatial awareness and ball familiarization skills. They will also be choosing and using different tactics and movements to suit different situations. After half term all 3 classes will take part in a Dance unit on a 'Clown' theme. Rowan class will be off to Wells Leisure Centre for swimming lessons for a 10 week period.

### Religious Education

Our topic in R.E. this half term is 'Festivals and Celebrations.' This explores those aspects on earth which are reflected in the pattern of religious practices and festivals. Children will be thinking closely about experiences of celebrations within their own lives and learning about the major religious festivals and celebrations, e.g. anniversaries, seasonal festivals, commemorations and hear stories associated with them. Children will also develop their understanding that people have different needs, views, cultures and beliefs, which need to be treated with respect. There will also be an emphasis on the festival of Christmas after half term with our focus being on why we give presents at Christmas and at re-visiting the Christmas story, looking closely at the coming of the Wise Men.

### P.S.H.C.E.

The theme of 'New Beginnings' offers children the opportunity to see themselves as valued individuals within a community, and to contribute to shaping a welcoming, safe and fair learning community for all. Throughout the theme children will explore feelings of happiness and excitement, sadness, anxiety and fearfulness, while learning (and putting into practice) shared models for 'calming down' and 'problem solving'. After half term the focus changes to 'Getting on and falling out.' This unit will develop children's knowledge, understanding and skills in three key social and emotional aspects of learning: empathy, managing feelings (with a focus on anger) and social skills. The aspects of these tasks will be based around developing the ethos of the classroom and valuing diversity.

### Music

We are very lucky to be continuing our weekly singing sessions with a Somerset Music Tutor. In class children will gain a broad and balanced musical education. The songs and music that the children will learn this term will focus on the duration of sounds and exploring pulse and rhythm. The teaching activities are imaginative, inspiring and fun and give many opportunities for children to perform expressively and allow them to compose their own rhythms. We will also be learning songs from around the world including the British Isles and about music from different periods and genres. Of course not forgetting that later on in the term, we will be busy rehearsing for the Nativity.

### French

Throughout the Autumn Term children will be learning how to greet others and to name colours in French. They will enjoy a weekly session using books, interactive resources and puppets in order to help them learn and become more confident to use the French language.

If you have any questions, or any skills or resources that you have that could help support the topics we are covering during the Autumn Term, please pop in and see us.

Kind Regards,  
Julia Preston, Kerrie Willington & Ali Hawkins ©

