

Next Year

2022-2023

Curriculum Updates

- Big art projects planned throughout the academic year linked to themes. We are currently working towards receiving the Arts Mark award for Schools.
- More emphasis on linking music through the curriculum, e.g. linking dance in PE lessons to music objectives.
- The UNICEF Rights Respecting schools work will be linked more through art projects in the school.
- House Captains as well as School Council, more information to follow in the new year.
- Bikeability moved to Years 3 and 4.
- Swimming lessons for all junior classes Years 3-6.
- PGL for Years 5 and 6.

Creative Fridays

- Will no longer happening in the way we have known over the past few years.
- Reasons for the change;
- Demographics have changed in the past few years
- Children coming in at lower starting points
- Writing continues to be a focus across the school – we need to add the additional lesson in every week. On average children are missing 6 hours of English and Maths every half term with creative Fridays in place
- Moving subjects that are taught on Fridays back into the week
- We have tweaked the Whole School Curriculum Map so teachers only have two topic subjects per half term and have looked at timetables to ensure there can be four hours free in the week to teach these.

First Week in September – Five day focus

Vision Day – What is the school vision? What does it mean? How can we use the school vision this year? This year every class will do a piece of work around one of the values and therefore will be named after a value.

RECEPTION - Courage

Year 1 - Love

Year 2 - Wisdom

Year 3 –Forgiveness

Year 4 – Respect

Year 5 - Friendship

Year 6 – Vision Class

Expectations

Behaviour – expectations in the classroom, go through the behaviour system, set up a class charter, explain any other class systems, e.g. name in the bag, traffic lights etc. Children will be given a vote around what rewards they want to receive in the classroom.

Whole school rewards like teams points will also be explained.

Maths and English – we will spend time making sure the children know how we want them to set out work in their books, underlining, short date, long date, missing a line etc

Teachers will discuss how they will run the classroom. What the children can expect from them, and what they can expect in return.

Class timetables, homework, home reading records etc will be discussed, organised and put in place.

Other activities for the first week back

Who Am I Activities – work in preparation for International Day

Fact file on ourselves- who am I, where am I from, where is my family from, who is in my family, what is my heritage?

Goal Setting (link to Happiness Project) What are my goals for the year?

Self Portraits – all children to create a self portrait which will be framed and sold on International Day. Each class will be producing the portrait in a different style. These are linked to each classes national curriculum art objectives. They will be given time and high quality outcomes produced.

Self Portraits

- Reception – Chris Ofili Contemporary Art
- Year 1 – Pablo Picasso Cubism
- Year 2 – Roy Lichtenstein Pop Art
- Year 3 – Vincent Van Gogh Post Impressionism
- Year 4 – Jenny Saville Contemporary Art
- Year 5 – Jeffery Ross Pointillism
- Year 6 – Frida Kahlo Surrealism/Modern Art

Autumn Term Happiness Project

- The aim of the Happiness Project is to develop and embed understanding of ways to keep ourselves and others happy.
- This is a whole school project consisting of ten weeks with ten themes based around the 'Action for Happiness' themes.
- Each week we will have an assembly, work in all classes, workshops, visitors and parent and staff workshops to teach children about positive mental health.
- The ten themes are: Setting goals, Giving, Friends and Family, Try Something New, Emotions, Health Body, Simplicity (Mindfulness), Celebrating Differences, Resilience and Belonging.

The Happiness Project is a 12 week positive mental health initiative which will be delivered over the Autumn Term. The first week is a opportunity to assess the children's current level of well-being through conducting interviews with children and using the 'Children's Happiness Scale'. This should give a baseline by which the impact of the project is measured.

Next comes 10 themed weeks, each looking at a different way in which children can recognise and then have an impact on their own happiness. Each week one of the SLT will introduce the theme in assembly and the teachers follow up with lessons and activities. Specialist workshops will be organised. Parent workshops will also be offered on subjects such as supporting children's positive self image and resilience. Parents will also be updated using the weekly newsletters about the messages and activities at school.

Week 1—Setting goals and knowing the steps needed to achieve these.

Week 2—Giving can make the giver feel happy as well as the recipient.

Week 3—Friends and Family are an important source of happiness.

Week 4—Trying something new can be exciting and build resilience.

Week 5—Emotions: we need to be able to name them, recognise them and also focus on the positive ones.

Week 6—Healthy body including eating nutritious food, exercising , sleeping well and drinking lots of water are needed to maintain our well being.

Week 7—Mindfulness: being in the moment and appreciating the natural wonders around us, learning techniques for calming our moods.

Week 8—Celebrating differences: We are all unique and different and that is wonderful!

Week 9—Resilience: being able to bounce back when things go wrong.

Week 10—Belonging: being members of different groups can help us feel part of something bigger and give us meaning.

The final week consisted of a celebration I am open for discussion around what this can be. Any ideas welcome!

ART Linked to the Happiness Project

- Reception – Resilience (week 9)
- Year 1 – Giving (week 2)
- Year 2 Emotions (week 5)
- Year 3 – Family & Friends (week 3)
- Year 4 – Celebrating Differences (week 8)
- Year 5 – Simplicity (week 7)
- Year 6 – Belonging (week 10)

Behaviour System

- The behaviour system will be changing next year. The bronze silver and gold badges will no longer be used.
- A golden book will replace the badges and those children demonstrating the exceptional behaviour on a weekly basis will have their names added to the Golden Book. The names in the Golden Book will be announced in the weekly celebration assembly, added to the school newsletter and parents will be called by a member of SLT to share the reasons why their child has been added to the Golden Book.
- Each week the reward for the being in the Golden Book will be different and chosen out of a hat at random. This could be an ice-lolly or hot chocolate with Mrs Hodgson, a non uniform day or a special job or responsibility for the week.
- Other reward systems used in the school will be up for discussion with the House Captains and School Council, and through pupil voice the children can decide what they want them to look like. We will update parents in due course.

Class Assemblies

- Teachers feel very overwhelmed having to do three of these a year.
- Practising for a class assembly takes up a lot of time and core learning is missed whilst the focus shifts to preparing for an assembly. This is something we then have to squeeze in at the end of the term, which is difficult in an already busy timetable.
- We will replace one of the class assemblies with a more informal presentation of work just to parents in Maberly Hall. Children will share their learning from each topic and parents will have a chance to look at their books.
- We have also listened to parent feedback and agreed to have an open classroom afternoon once every half term, rather than once a term.