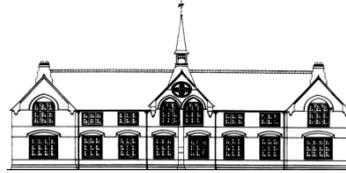


# New Town Primary School



# Curriculum Booklet

Autumn Term 2015

## Year Four



New Town Primary School

# Curriculum Booklet

Autumn 2015

Dear Parents, Guardians & Pupils,

In conjunction with the new National Curriculum introduced in September 2014, the New Town Primary School curriculum is now taught through 'topics'. Children learn in lots of different ways, and we plan to be able to cater for many varied styles of learning through our curriculum, using a broad theme or topic to link together many subjects. It is proven that where children can make links and connections between their learning and the real world it helps them to become better learners and develop a real thirst for knowledge.

In response to parental feedback we now send out a Curriculum Booklet three times each academic year. It not only tells you some more details about the planned curriculum for the term ahead, but also outlines our expectations of learning at home, and shows you how you can help to build further connections and help children to develop a deep love of learning both inside and outside school.

As always, I thank you for your continued support in helping New Town to provide the best education and opportunities possible for our children.

**Miss P. Cornish**

Head of School



## Literacy

In literacy this term we will be writing stories using a range of books as stimuli. We will be learning to 'read between the lines' to understand a character's thoughts and feelings and using these techniques in our own story writing. Our next genre will be reports related to our local topic focussing on wildlife around New Town. We will also use our topic as a stimulus for nature riddles. There shall be a continued emphasis on securing basic punctuation in all writing and using simple and compound sentences efficiently.

## Science

In science this term we will be learning that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. We will be exploring and using classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in the local and the wider environment. We will be thinking about how environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things. We will also observe migration patterns in the autumn.

Autumn  
Term 1  
Year 4 Topic:  
**Me &  
Where I Live**

## Maths

In our maths lessons we will be revising our understanding of place value in order to secure our formal and mental methods of the four operations. We will be learning that decimals and fractions are different ways of expressing proportions and we will be multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000 and recording our answers in decimals where necessary. There shall be a focus on fast mental recall for the four, six, seven and eight times tables and corresponding division facts.



## Creative Curriculum, RE & PE

In term one our topic focuses on ourselves and the environment in which we live. This will include aspects of local history and geography as well as a more detailed examination of the natural life around New Town. In RE we will be thinking about Judaism and the core beliefs of the Jewish faith. During PE lessons we will be developing our skills through basketball and circuits.

## Literacy

In literacy this term we will be using our topic as a stimulus for report writing as well as for writing recounts about life in other parts of the world. In our fiction writing we will be examining how authors write effective settings and using the features to write our own story settings. There shall be a continued emphasis on securing basic punctuation in all writing as well as manipulating the order of our sentences for effect. Children are expected to read at home at least four times a week.

## Science

We will continue to develop our scientific skills and our ability to ask questions during this topic. The class will be looking at the life cycle through the study of plants. We will study the dissection of plants, the parts of plants and seed dispersal. We will also compare the life cycle to other living things. Lastly, we will focus on using scientific vocabulary during our discussions and hands on experiments.

Autumn  
Term 2  
Year 4 Topic:  
**South  
America**



## Maths

In maths this term we shall be continuing to apply written methods of the four operations. We shall also begin to convert units of measurement, for example metres to kilometres. In our shape work we will compare and classify geometric shapes, including quadrilaterals such as parallelograms and trapeziums and different triangles based on their properties and sizes. There will still be a focus on quick mental recall.

## Creative Curriculum, RE & PE

Our second topic is a detailed study of both the physical and the human geography of South America. We will learn about the location and structure of the rainforests and the importance of the Amazon River to life in South America as well as learning about the creatures native to South America. In RE we will be learning about Christmas and what the festival means to Christians. In PE we will be developing our skills through tag rugby and dance.

## Reading

- Listen to your child read a minimum of three times per week
- Discuss the book with your child and ask questions about what they have read
- Draw pictures of characters, predict what might happen next or draw a story map together
- Activities such as cooking are great for improving reading and organisational skills and using non-fiction texts
- Read the newspaper together and talk about what they have found out and think about topical news stories

## Language Development

- It is important that the children continue to practise their English language skills outside of school, especially during the school holidays
- It also helps improve their knowledge of the world around them if they can discuss appropriate topics currently in the news and other media
- Spellings will be sent home on a weekly basis: please help support your child by helping them learn these
- Play word or board games with them to help to build vocabulary: Boggle, Scrabble, Eye Spy are all great to build language skills

Ways you  
can help at  
home:  
**KS2**

## Maths

- By the end of year 3 children should be able to recall their 2, 3, 4, 5 & 10 times tables
- By the end of year 4 children should be able to recall the multiplication and division facts for all multiplication tables up to 12x12
- During Year 5 and Year 6 children need to improve their speed of recall for these facts.
- Activities such as cooking and shopping are great ways to practise weighing skills and using money in real life contexts
- Play quick fire games – use limited numbers to get as close you can to a total, choose a number and see which calculations are equal to this

## Resources

- The public library offers an unlimited supply of fiction and non-fiction books plus access to the internet, and it's free
- WH Smiths sell a range of workbooks based on the curriculum: CGP and Scofield & Sims are cheap and easily available
- There are a huge variety of websites which can support your child's learning:
  - <http://www.funbrain.com/>
  - [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/)
  - <http://horrible-histories.co.uk/>
- Ensure you always supervise your children carefully whilst using the internet

