

**Curry Rivel
Church of England
Primary School**



'Caring, curious and confident'

**Discovery Class
Spring Newsletter
January 2023**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed some family time and had a restful Christmas break. I am sure the children are as excited as we are to come back to a very busy and exciting term in Discovery class.

It is hoped that this newsletter gives you a flavour of what you can expect from the term ahead. Communication is so important, and although the beginning/end of the day does not allow for long conversations, you can always contact us via the school office.

It is important that you have an understanding of what the school day looks like. Please see the timetable below which illustrates a typical week in Discovery Class this term- this can be used to help you have conversations about what your child has been learning in school each day.

We have lots of exciting lessons coming up and all of the Discovery team are looking forward to starting the new year with the children and continuing to share our learning journey together. The children have settled really well into year 4 and their enthusiasm is wonderful!

We are also looking forward to continuing working in partnership with you all, our discussions will ensure that your child keeps on developing in confidence, as well as growing as a learner and as a person.

Miss Avery

**Timetable: Discovery
Spring 1 2023**

	Reg	Session 1	Session 2	Break	Session 2	Session 3	Daily Mile	Lunch	Session 4	Collective Worship	Session 5	Class book
	8.45 - 9.00:	9.00 - 10.00	10.00 - 10:15	10.15- 10.30	10.30 - 11.00	11.00 - 12.00	12.00 - 12.10	12.10 - 1.05	1.05 - 1.25	1.25 - 1.50	1.50 - 3.00	3.00 - 3.10
Mon		Maths	Spellings		Guided reading	English			ERIC		History	
Tues		Maths	TTRS		Guided reading	English			ERIC		French	
Wed		Maths	Spelling shed		Guided reading	English			ERIC		RE	
Thu		Maths	TTRS		PE		Times tables		ERIC		PSHE PPA	
Fri		Maths	Spellings		PAG	English			Art			

In Discovery Class this term, we will be studying the following units of work:

English	Mysteries Letters Newspaper reports
Maths	Addition and Subtraction Multiplicative relationships
PE	Hockey Dance
Music	Soul and Gospel
RE	Creation and Fall

French	Numbers Clothing
Science	Rocks
Computing	Programming
Design Technology/Art	Painting and mixed media Mechanical systems
Personal Social Health Economic Education (PSHE)	Citizenship
History Geography	The Tudors How and why my area is changing.

Knowledge Organisers for Maths, Science, French, History and Geography will be sent home. These can be used to discuss what your child is learning in school, you can use a knowledge organiser in different ways:

Read through it together; discuss tricky vocabulary; quiz your child on the knowledge they have acquired; play true and false games with the facts.



Support team

This is the team of adults who support Discovery class.

Mrs Shaw is our class Higher Level Teaching Assistant. Mrs Andrews and Mrs Long also supporting us in class throughout the day. Mrs Langford is the school ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant), teaching across the school and Mrs Waller is the acting school SENDCo.

Mrs Shaw will teach PSHE on Thursday afternoons.



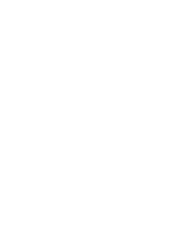
Ms Avery



Mrs Shaw



Mrs Andrews



Mrs Long



Mrs Langford



Mrs Waller

Our Ambitious Curriculum at Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School

We aim for all our pupils to be 'Caring, Curious and Confident' learners. Our curriculum is a 'knowledge-rich' and 'sticky' curriculum, based on the teaching of core concepts and skills.

WHAT IS A KNOWLEDGE-RICH APPROACH?

'The accumulated wealth of human knowledge, and what we choose to pass on to the next generation through teaching in our schools (the curriculum), must be at the heart of education' (Amanda Spielman).

Knowledge underpins and enables the application of skills. We strive for children to learn skills alongside knowledge, ensuring that both are developed. At Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School and Little Pips Nursery we see knowledge and skills as intertwined. We believe that this is important for making the curriculum relevant and meaningful to pupils and for putting knowledge into context. We have looked at every curriculum area individually, as we recognise that each subject is unique and includes its own substantive knowledge, disciplinary knowledge and skills. We have sequenced the content of many of our subjects using 'rolling programmes' which ensure that whatever path a pupil takes through the school, the National Curriculum content is covered. More importantly, our curriculum is a 'spiral curriculum' in which key concepts are presented repeatedly throughout the curriculum, but with deepening layers of complexity.

PROMOTING READING

A good ability in reading is fundamental to everything that the children will learn in class during the year, and regular practice is therefore the most important aspect of homework that he or she will have. Please keep in touch with us if you are experiencing difficulties with helping your child with this vital regular activity. For our part, we will let you know if there is insufficient reading practice taking place. (Daily home reading is expected as least 4 times a week). Here are some top tips:

- All children need to read some of their book aloud to you whatever their ability
- Agree daily targets with your child. E.g. 10 pages or 20 minutes
- Discuss what your child is reading
- Read to your child regularly: this could be a book you have chosen together or could be your child's school book.
- Record all home reading in the reading diary.

ACCELERATED READER

We use a reading scheme called Accelerated Reader for Key Stage 2, and for some pupils in Year 2. As the children bring their reading books home you will notice a system of levelling books. The number on the front of the book indicates the reading level (which has been determined by the results of a reading assessment that all the children have completed). This enables us to have a much firmer understanding of the children's progress. You will also hear about 'quizzes'. This enables the monitoring of the children's comprehension and whether they've understood their reading - not just read the words. Throughout the term, we will continue to celebrate and support the children with their reading habits and their comprehension skills.

Your child's decimal reading level corresponds to books, which aim to challenge your child yet be decodable without your child getting frustrated or losing understanding.

Children should aim to score at least **80%** on a quiz in school to show that they have generally understood their reading text.

If your child is concerned that they are finding this tricky, they could try any of these:

- ★ Choose a shorter book.
- ★ Choose a book, which they prefer and find more engaging.
- ★ Move back a level to gain more confidence.
- ★ Ask to read more of their text with an adult, who will help them to infer the meaning of new vocabulary and show them how to summarise whilst reading.

When children have read approximately 3 books (with a quiz of 80% or more), they will likely move up another tenth. We hope that children will move up quickly to get to books higher in their range, as they seek to challenge themselves and maximise their progress.



Homework in Year 4

The most important homework you can do is reading, as least 4 times a week. It is vital that this aspect of the homework routine is established quickly. Please ensure a grown up has signed each home read as this is checked on a Friday. Times Tables are a crucial skill for the children as they move forward through their education. The children in Discovery should log on and play for at least 20 minutes per week; as above, this is checked on a Friday.

PE Day: Thursday

If your child is unable to do PE for any reason, please can you provide a note/letter or phone the school office. Pupils should wear their school PE kits into school on those days. School sweatshirts/cardigans please (No sports hoodies or sports tops please). Jewellery and watches should not be worn for PE lessons. Earrings are not permitted to be worn and must be removed or covered. As the term progresses and the weather stays cooler, black/navy tracksuit bottoms can be worn for outdoor PE. Please bare this in mind, as we will be doing PE outside at least once a week, on top of the daily mile, in all weather conditions.

Personal belongings

Please ensure that your child's belongings are all labelled with their name. We supply all the stationery your child needs so a pencil case is **not required**. Children should **not** bring toys and cuddly toys or other precious items to school.

Water bottles & Snacks

It is proven that children learn best when they are hydrated, so we encourage children to bring in a **labelled** bottle containing water for the classroom, each day. Ideally, a sturdy, sports cap re-useable bottle works best. The children are able to refill these throughout the school day. Children are encouraged to bring fruit, vegetables or a sandwich for a breaktime snack.

Communication

Please email the school Please email the school (office@curryrivel.somerset.sch.uk) and your message will be forwarded to us. You can also phone the school office to ask the class teacher to call you if you prefer. We appreciate that there is a wonderful family atmosphere here, and not being able to linger for chats is hard. We will be organising a parents' evening over the term.