



Growing together,

Every day,

In every way.

Our Creative and Engaging Curriculum at High Meadow Infant School

Here at High Meadow Infant School we have seized the opportunity of the changes to the 2014 National Curriculum and have worked collaboratively to create an exciting, active and relevant curriculum for our 21st century learners.

We have carefully negotiated half termly 'Learning Plans' based on an enquiry based question such as 'How does your garden grow?' These exciting Learning Plans characterise learning and experiences across the year groups with visits and visitors enriching and deepening children's understanding. To maintain rigour and quality we also explicitly teach the basic skills of reading, writing, spelling and number.

Read the half termly year group 'Learning Plans' on our school website, to get a glimpse of the opportunities High Meadow Infant School children have from ages 4 to 7. These half termly curriculum overviews review past learning, outline future plans and provide detail regarding the teaching of English, Mathematics and all other curriculum areas. The plans also include suggestions of how to help your child at home. Go onto our website and click on your child's class to find their plan.

History
Who could help?
As **investigative** historians we will be learning to...
Contrast and compare the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements. We will look at the life Florence Nightingale and explore her reasons and desire to help soldiers injured in the Crimean War. We will compare her experience with that of Mary Seacole who also was inspired to help.

PSED
We will be learning how to recognise a range of emotions and how to deal with both the positive and negative emotions in ourselves and others. We will also find out about keeping safe at night time.

Our Golden Rules this term are...
We listen to people...we do not interrupt
We look after property...we don't waste or damage things.

Who could help?
Year 2 Autumn A



Home Learning
When were the Victorian times? Why were they called the 'Victorian' times? Find out as much as you can about this period of time. Make a poster, write a project, draw a picture and bring it into school to share!

Enrichment
Educational visit - A visit to an Art gallery to see a range of Victorian portraits and still-life paintings and drawings.
Community - A visit from a practicing Christian.

Art and Design
Victoriana
As **creative** artists we will be learning to...
Explore and create by creating a Victorian portrait from a photographic self-portrait
Develop skills and techniques to 'age' the photographic image to make a Victorian portrait
Evaluate and analyse to see how to improve my work
Learn about art and artists who have painted and drawn Victorian portraits and still-life's.

Religious Education
Getting ready for prayer
As **saving and respectful** citizens of Britain we will be learning about how Christians and Muslims get ready for prayer, both physically and mentally. We will find out how a Muslim would prepare for prayer (clothing, wudu, head-covering, removing shoes) and why, including intention (niyyah). We will have a visit from a practicing Christian who will share with us why and how they pray.

Literacy
As **creative** readers and writers we are learning to read and write...
Fiction - Stories in familiar settings.
Non-fiction - Postcards and Letters
Poetry - Songs and repetitive poems.
We will be learning to use punctuation correctly including question or exclamation marks. We will be learning to use sentences with different forms: statement, question, exclamation, command.
We will learn to use expanded noun phrases to describe and specify, e.g. adjectives to describe nouns
Phonics
As **enthusiastic** readers we will recoup on the **Phase 5** phonemes (letter sounds): graphemes (letter names) taught in Year 1.
ay, ou, ie, ea, oy, ir, ur, ue, aw, wh, ph, sh, sw, oo, ou, oy, o-e, o-s, i-e, e-s, o-s
And these **Phase 5** 'tricky words': their, people, Mr, Mrs, looked, called, asked, could, oh

Science
Uses of everyday materials
As **inquiring** scientists we are learning to work scientifically by asking simple questions, observing closely, performing simple tests, identifying and classifying, using information to suggest answers and gathering and recording data. We will identify and compare the uses of a variety of everyday materials including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for particular uses. We will find out how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.

Computing
As **curious** computer technicians we are learning to develop greater control over the digital skills or video camera. Begin to discuss the quality of our image and make decisions (e.g. delete a blurred / bad image) Begin to select and edit and change images. Begin to change or enhance photographs and pictures (crop, re-colour)

Music
As **talented** musicians we are learning to discover ways to use our voices to describe feelings and moods. We will create and **improvise** vocal sounds, building to a performance. We will learn to move and play to a steady beat and to sound sequences. We will also learn to control a changing tempo.

Maths
As **enquiring** mathematicians we are learning about...
Number and place value
We will learn to mark 2 digit numbers on a beaded line and count in 10s from 1 and 2 digit numbers. We will estimate a quantity and then count in tens. We will perform place value additions and subtractions.
Addition and subtraction
We will learn our number pairs to 10, 7, 8 and 9.
We will add and subtract 10 using coins
Money and Measures
We will learn to recognise coins, use a system to make amounts with coins and pay and give change using coins to 20p
We will read the time on digital and analogue clocks to the nearest half and quarter of an hour
Measures and Shape
We learn to measure using decimetre strips, centimetres and meters.
We will identify left and right and understand clockwise and anti-clockwise turns and right angles as quarter turns





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We are a Forest School

In September 2015 we introduced the Forest School Learning Plans to our school too, so every child will have the opportunity to experience an engaging and exciting curriculum outside in all weathers. Our children enjoy their Forest school sessions for two hours every week throughout the year so they really do get to experience the awe and wonder of every season in the natural environment.

"Forest Schools is an inspirational experience which uses the environment as a tool to develop childrens' emotional, personal and social skills.

It is an innovative educational approach of playing and learning in a safe woodland environment through hands-on learning experiences"



Find our [Forest Schools Parent information pack](#) on our website by the class pages.

We are a Storytelling School

In September 2015 we introduced 'Storytelling'. This is a proven strategy which helps foster a love of reading, writing and oral storytelling in our children and school community. This strategy is based on the Pie Corbett 'Talk for Writing' model which has been proved to raise standards in writing for ALL children.

'Storytelling provides a natural way of developing rich and active story language, for children to recycle in their own story making and writing. In this way attainment can rise quickly and be sustained'

storytelling schools
where every child is a storyteller



Artsmark
AWARDED BY ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



The Warwickshire Consortium
Teaching School Alliance



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'The simple joy and magic of storytelling is seen as a crucial part of an all-round education, a core skill for learning and sequencing ideas, a way of developing skills and confidence in speaking and performing, and a way of developing ideas about stories that enable high achievers to go further in their story making'

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In September 2017, after two years of intensive staff training and mentoring, we became an accredited International 'Story Telling' school. This means that we can now share our outstanding storytelling practice with other learners too! Click here to see our teachers in action on the Storytelling Schools website

<http://blog.storytellingschools.com/>

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We are an 'Arts Mark' School!



Artsmark
AWARDED BY ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Here at High Meadow we recognise the importance of a rich and engaging curriculum and although maintaining high academic standards is important, so too is the need for our children to be immersed in a rich, multi-cultural and exciting range of learning. This has now been officially recognised nationally as we have been awarded the ARTSMARK. In congratulating us, the Arts Council of England said...

"In order to become an Artsmark School, High Meadow Infant School has demonstrated its commitment to giving each and every child a high quality art and cultural education, as well as showing ambitious plans for the future which it will now work towards with the support of Arts Connect. Artsmark schools gain access to exceptional resources as well as networks of the country's most treasured cultural organisations, helping them develop and strengthen their arts provision"

Wonderful activities such as our annual 'Take One Picture' event, May Day Celebrations, In2Cultures Dance workshops, visits to theatres and galleries and days with poets and authors all help to make High Meadow Infant School a great place to be.



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We hope that your child will be living proof of the breadth and balance of our school's curriculum as we know that exciting, meaningful and active learning is linked to:

- Children's age appropriate interests
- The seasons/outdoors and the beauty of our natural world
- The diversity of our school
- Appreciation and celebration of local/regional/national/global events
- The interests and passions of staff and pupils
- Children's future roles and responsibilities in society re: sustainability (financial and natural), multiculturalism, tolerance and peace

There are links on our website under 'National Curriculum' which will lead you to documents which outline the National Curriculum requirements for all subjects but we encourage you to read our Learning Plans, come along to our Curriculum Workshops, look at our displays of learning, or talk to your child's class teacher to discover more detail.

World Book Day 2017



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The Early Years Foundation Stage

Our Early Years Curriculum provides opportunities and conditions for every High Meadow child to flourish in all aspects of their development. It provides a balance across all areas of learning and values each child's efforts, interests and culture. It empowers the children to be the best they can be, embraces the diversity of our community and is captivating and engaging.

The Foundation Stage Curriculum (encompassing Nursery and Reception) is made up of seven areas of learning and development. These are divided into three prime areas and four specific areas.

The three **prime areas** are:

Communication and Language

Personal, social and emotional development

Physical development

These are then supported by **specific areas** that strengthen the prime areas. The specific areas are:

Literacy

Mathematics

Understanding the World

Expressive Arts and Design

The Early Years Foundation Stage team quickly get to know the interests of individuals and groups of children and are quick to harness enthusiasms for learning in active, inspirational and outdoorsy ways. Learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage is practical, purposeful, creatively linked, active and open ended with visitors and visits enriching the curriculum regularly.

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In our setting, a great deal of learning is initiated by the child and adults working alongside the children tirelessly to facilitate and help develop effective learning strategies such as:

- Being willing to have a go
- Being involved and concentrating
- Having their own ideas
- Choosing ways to do things
- Finding new ways
- Enjoying and achieving what they set out to do

We do have 'starting points' for each half term however, we are very much led by the children's interests and learning needs and will amend them accordingly.

Find out about learning in the Reception Class at the moment by clicking on the Reception Robins class page on our website



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