



# Year 3/4 Curriculum theme - SOUTH AFRICA



August 2023–February 2024



South Africa is a country with a very interesting history. It has a varied and rich landscape with many features to learn about too. Studying this country also enables us to research the life of one of the most well known men in more recent history - Nelson Mandela.



## St.Botolph's Curriculum Drivers - South Africa

(What underpins our curriculum? What do we think about when planning the theme in detail?)

<b>Our World</b> Sustainable Communities environments Diversity & beliefs	<b>Social, emotional and physical wellbeing</b>	<b>Spiritual and moral</b>
<p>As people concerned about the world around us, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Learn about the struggles people went through because of their race in order to achieve equality. Find out the views of the rest of the world during the period of apartheid.</li> <li>❑ Learn what it is like to live in South Africa today for different communities.</li> <li>❑ Learn how important it is to look after all species and to preserve endangered South African Wildlife.</li> </ul>	<p>As we learn how to look after and take care of ourselves, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Continue to learn and practise techniques using Mindfulness and self-care.</li> <li>❑ Take part in Anti-bullying and Keeping Safe weeks</li> <li>❑ Encourage children to engage in activities led by Wellbeing Champions and our Sports Crew</li> <li>❑ When learning about key people in history, understand how important it was for them to have the support of their community, friends and family.</li> <li>❑ Integrate the units of the Cambridgeshire PSHE programme into our teaching and through discrete units.</li> </ul> <p>PSHE = Personal, Social &amp; Health Education            We have a rolling programme of units that we follow each year. They are taken from the Cambridgeshire PSHE programme.</p>	<p>In our spiritual and moral development, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Learn how people from different backgrounds in South Africa came together and were able to move on towards peace and reconciliation.</li> <li>❑ Discuss forgiveness, what this means to people and what it can look like in action.</li> <li>❑ Learn how to use past experiences and knowledge gained in order to help us to move on when faced with our own difficult situations.</li> <li>❑ Continue to build on our understanding of our school vision and ethos through our assembly and Act of Worship programme.</li> </ul>

## Theme Weeks

**Anti Bullying Week (November)** - Do we know what to do and who to turn to if something or someone makes us upset or feel unsafe? Who are our Trusted Adults?

**Keeping Safe Week (February)** - Our focus for the week is on how to keep safe in many different situations. How can we look after ourselves and others? How do we keep ourselves safe online? What do we do if something we see makes us feel uncomfortable? We focus on internet safety all year round but also have a special focus during Safer Internet Day.

**Faith Week (February)** - For this Faith Week, the focus will be on Chinese New Year. What are the traditions, beliefs and practices around Chinese New Year? How do Chinese communities celebrate both in China and around the world?



Additional key events covered in school include:

Remembrance Day









Children in Need






Christmas Jumper Day



Year 4 Residential to Beaumanor Hall (September).  
The whole school will go to the pantomime in Loughborough (December).

<p>History</p> 	<p>Geography</p> 	<p>Art</p> 
<p>The children learn about the fairly recent history of South Africa during the time of Apartheid and changes since. Children continue to build an overview of world history, developing a sense of chronology and key dates. We also discuss how the world reacted to events in South Africa at the time. What impact did it have on us in Britain? We will research the life of Nelson Mandela so they can write about his life and his journey in their English lessons.</p>	<p>Where in the world is South Africa? South Africa is a rich and diverse nation in many aspects. Atlases and globes will be used to learn where South Africa is located. Children are encouraged to ask geographical questions and use a range of resources as they learn in more depth about the key physical and human features of the country. Why are settlements in certain places? Which are the key locations? What can you do there? Knowledge of compass points is another feature of the geography work within this unit.</p>	<p>We take inspiration from Sue Dickinson as a modern artist who used sketching and watercolours effectively to create wonderful paintings of amazing animals that can be found in South Africa. Children learn about sketching and using light, shade, hatching, tone and texture to good effect. They get the opportunity to explore, and refine their ideas as an artist would do. Later in the unit, they will study the traditional art of the Ndbele people and see how they use geometric patterns and bright colours to decorate the outside of their homes. We bring the two themes together to produce a super piece of individual artwork.</p>
<p>Design &amp; Technology</p> 	<p>PE</p> 	<p>Computing</p> 
<p>Cooking and nutrition are important to us all. As we are lucky enough to have our own Food Room, children will be able to build on their skills and understanding of how to create delicious and healthy food from scratch. Being safe in the kitchen is a key and children will continue to be taught how to use the correct utensils and how to</p>	<p>Through the teaching of specific games children will develop practical skills in relation to throwing and catching with control and accuracy. They will learn about the rules of different games and how to use tactics when playing. It is important that they understand how to be a respectful team</p>	<p>As we undertake research during our work on South Africa and Nelson Mandela, we continue to develop online research skills and focus on safe searching. Being safe online is not just limited to Safer Internet Day. We try to ensure that</p>

<p>prepare ingredients hygienically.</p> <p>One of the items we make is a savoury tart which is also popular in South Africa. There it is traditionally known as a Souttart. Children make pastry and what goes together to create the filling. They will learn how you can change fillings according to personal taste. Evaluations will be made so that they can review how they have got on and what changes they would make another time.</p> <p>Cooking also enables children to make concrete links between areas of maths and science too.</p>	<p>member.</p> <p>In gymnastics, they will learn how to plan, perform and repeat sequences whilst moving in a clear and expressive manner. Can they use their bodies to show a change of direction and speed/</p> <p><b>Discrete units to be taught</b>  Football  Cross country  Sportshall athletics  Tri golf  Dodgeball  Gymnastics  Hockey</p>	<p>references are made often and support given to children so they know how to stay safe when searching for information on the internet.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Music</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RE</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Languages</b></p> 
<p>We will follow the school music programme, Charanga.</p> <p><b>Discrete units to be taught</b>  Charanga -  Unit 1 - Let your spirit fly  Unit 2 - Glockenspiel Stage 1  Unit 3 - Three Little BIRDS  (+Christmas Production)</p> <p>Children will be learning how to sing in tune, showing control of their voice.</p> <p>They will be taught how to transcribe by using non-standard symbols and then how to recognise notes on the musical staff. Children will also learn musical terminology and have the opportunity to evaluate music.</p>	<p>We will continue to follow the Leicestershire Syllabus for RE alongside the Understanding Christianity units.</p> <p><b>Discrete units to be taught</b>  What is the Trinity and why is it important to Christians? (Year 3)  What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today? (Year 3)  What do Christians learn from the creation story? (Year 3)</p> <p>What is it like for someone to follow God? (Year 4)  What do Hindus believe God is like? (Year 4)  How do Festivals and family life show what matters to Jewish people? (Year 4)</p> <p>Children will learn how people show their beliefs in how they worship and how they live. They will learn about different stories and what they teach people. Children will be taught about the core beliefs and concepts of Christianity and other world religions.</p>	<p>We continue to follow the iLanguages Scheme of work for French.</p> <p><b>Discrete units to be taught iLanguages (Year 3 / 4 )</b>  Greetings  Classroom instructions  Animals  Numbers</p> <p>Children will be taught to read and write words and phrases. They will be encouraged to repeat words and phrases out loud and also taught how to ask and answer simple questions. Time will be dedicated to learning more about the culture of France.</p>

	Can they make connections between some of the beliefs and practices studied and life in the world today?	
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## Science



At the heart of our work in science is getting the children to think and behave like scientists by **working scientifically**.

Children will learn how to develop questioning techniques so they are able to ask relevant, scientific questions. We want to encourage them to set up practical enquiries and tests, recording results accurately. They will use simple scientific language when recording findings and will present data in a variety of ways. This will help them to be able to draw conclusions.

In **biology**, we will look at: Understanding animals and humans

We will identify that animals and humans need the right types and amounts of nutrition. Children will look at how humans and some animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement. Time will be spent learning in more detail how to construct and interpret food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey. Learning will then move onto revisiting the basic functions of the human digestive system before looking at teeth in humans and their simple functions.

As we turn to evolution and inheritance, we will identify how animals, including humans, resemble their parents in many features. We can look at how animals and plants are suited to their environments and how they have adapted and evolved over the years. Fossils can also tell us many things about life long ago.

In **physics**, we will find out how magnets attract or repel each other. Our learning will lead us to exploring and investigating with magnets to find out that they have two poles and which materials are attracted to magnets. Next, we will learn about light and shadows. We will look at how light is reflected off surfaces and find out more about how shadows are formed and how their size changes. Our work on electricity and understanding electrical circuits will also continue. How can you make a lamp light up and what is the purpose of a switch in a circuit? Children will build on their knowledge of vocabulary associated with electrical circuits.

## English



In English, the children will focus on the key areas of reading, writing, handwriting and spelling.

Reading for understanding and comprehension skills will be taught in class. It is also really important that children read regularly at home to build up stamina, fluency and understanding.

Children will work on developing a comfortable style of joining letters using cursive script.

Spelling lessons will follow the same pattern segmenting the words using the Jason Wade approach.

Core writing skills will be developed through both fiction and non-fiction work. Our work on Nelson Mandela will enable us to write fiction and non-fiction pieces based on his life and work. Learning about South Africa will also help us as we write persuasive texts.

## Maths



In maths, we follow the White Rose Scheme of learning. We will continue to practise, revise and recall a range of key mathematical facts daily. We will also work on the quick recall of times tables and division facts.

Time will be dedicated to going over the four key operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division; learning and practising standard written methods for each of these to build confidence.

Length and perimeter and work on fractions will also be covered. We will exploit opportunities to cover maths in other areas of the curriculum.

