



New Primary National Curriculum September 2014



September 2014 sees the implementation of the new Primary National Curriculum for all pupils in Key Stage 1 and 2. Throughout the year the staff at St Andrew's have been preparing for the new updates by attending training sessions, researching the new units of work and amending existing plans. The curriculum at St Andrew's was graded 'outstanding' by Ofsted in the inspection last year, for this reason our curriculum will only need some minor amendments in the coming year. Pupils will have some exciting units and topics to look forward to in the next academic year and we can't wait to get started!

'Computing' is the new ICT

The introduction of the new ICT curriculum has seen some significant changes. To begin with ICT is now to be referred to as 'computing'. Two of the key aims are that pupils can understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including algorithms and data representation, and that they are responsible, competent and confident users of ICT. The latter of these aims refers to e-safety and ensuring that our pupils are e-safe when online and that they are critical users of the internet who question the reliability and validity of web searches and internet sites. At St Andrew's we hold an Internet Safety Week each year and pupils are continuously talked to about how to keep safe online. E-safety lessons will continue to be taught through all year groups in the next academic year and it is hoped these messages are supported at home too.

This is a great child friendly websites that pupils of different ages can use at home to remind them of our e-safety rules online; <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Home Learning Topics

The introduction of home learning topics that the pupils complete alongside their class topics have proved to be a huge success. Pupils have had great fun in sharing these high quality topics and teachers have reported that they have been a pleasure to read and mark. Home learning topics have been introduced as a way of pupils taking some responsibility for their own learning and having the opportunity to choose how they present their own learning too—with some pupils choosing to present theirs using their artistic skills and others making the most of ICT, written and drama.

Visiting Curriculum Specialists

At St Andrew's we believe visiting curriculum specialists bring a great deal of expertise, knowledge and enthusiasm to the classroom. We endeavor to ensure all pupils have a broad range of experiences from a range of visiting specialists relating to their curriculum topic area.

The life size panda that is currently displayed in the entrance hall was part of a Wild In Art project we became involved in, it was decorated by a range of pupils in Key Stage 2. A commissioned graffiti artist came into school to work with pupils to decorate it. This panda, along with others from a range of secondary schools, will be displayed for the public to view at the Lowry Outlet on 11th July.

