

Our high-quality science curriculum is planned as a 4-year journey across the school and provides the foundations for understanding the world through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics. Science has changed our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity, and all pupils are taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. Through building up a body of key foundational knowledge and concepts, our pupils are encouraged to recognise the power of rational explanation and develop a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena. They are encouraged to understand how science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes. Children will be introduced to key figures/scientists from the different areas of Science and STEM and learn about how they have impacted the world as well as their route into their career field.

By the end of Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4)

The principal focus of our science teaching is to enable our pupils to broaden their scientific view of the world around them. They do this through exploring, talking about, testing and developing ideas about everyday phenomena and the relationships between living things and familiar environments, and by beginning to develop their ideas about functions, relationships and interactions. They ask their own questions about what they observe and make some decisions about which types of scientific enquiry are likely to be the best ways of answering them, including observing changes over time, noticing patterns, grouping and classifying things, carrying out simple comparative and fair tests and finding things out using secondary sources of information. They draw simple conclusions from their results and observations and are encouraged to begin to use key scientific language, first, to talk about and, later, to write about what they have found out. Our pupils read and spell scientific vocabulary correctly and with confidence, using their growing word-reading and spelling knowledge.

During years 3 and 4, our pupils are taught to use the following practical scientific methods, processes and skills through the teaching of the programme of study content:

- asking relevant questions and using different types of scientific enquiries to answer them
- setting up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests
- making systematic and careful observations and, where appropriate, taking accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment, including thermometers and data loggers
- gathering, recording, classifying and presenting data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions
- recording findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, keys, bar charts, and tables
- reporting on findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations, displays or presentations of results and conclusions
- using results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements and raise further questions
- identifying differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas and processes
- using straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings.

The science content that our pupils are taught builds on from the infant school and includes living things and their habitats, animals (including humans), rocks and soils, light, forces and magnets, habitats, states of matter, sound and electricity.

By the end of Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6)

The principal focus of science teaching is to enable our pupils to develop a deeper understanding of a wide range of scientific ideas. They do this through exploring and talking about their ideas; asking their own questions about scientific phenomena; and analysing functions, relationships and interactions more systematically. They encounter ideas that are more abstract and begin to recognise how these ideas help them to understand and predict how the world operates. They also begin to recognise that scientific ideas change and develop over time. They select the most appropriate ways to answer science questions using different types of scientific enquiry, including observing changes over different periods of time, noticing patterns, grouping and classifying things, carrying out comparative and fair tests and finding things out using a wide range of secondary sources of information. Pupils draw conclusions based on their data and observations, use evidence to justify their ideas, and use their scientific knowledge and understanding to explain their findings. Our pupils read, spell and pronounce scientific vocabulary correctly.

During years 5 and 6, our pupils are taught to use the following practical scientific methods, processes and skills through the teaching of the programme of study content:

- planning different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary
- taking measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision, taking repeat readings when appropriate
- recording data and results of increasing complexity using scientific diagrams and labels, classification keys, tables, scatter graphs, bar and line graphs
- using test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests
- reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and a degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations
- identifying scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments

The science content that our pupils are taught builds on from earlier learning includes living things and their habitats, animals (including humans), light, properties and changes of materials, earth and space, forces, evolution and inheritance and electricity.

Herne Junior School Science Curriculum Progression

| | Years 3 & 4 | Years 5 & 6 | | |
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| Working scientifically | <p>Ask relevant questions and use different types of scientific enquiries to answer them.</p> <p>Set up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests.</p> <p>Make systematic and careful observations and, where appropriate, take accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment, including thermometers and data loggers.</p> <p>Gather, record, classify and present data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions.</p> <p>Record findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, keys, bar charts, and tables.</p> <p>Report on findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations, displays or presentations of results and conclusions.</p> <p>Use results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements and raise further questions.</p> <p>Identify differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas and processes.</p> <p>Use straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings.</p> | <p>Plan different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary.</p> <p>Take measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision, taking repeat readings when appropriate.</p> <p>Record data and results of increasing complexity using scientific diagrams and labels, classification keys, tables, scatter graphs, bar and line graphs.</p> <p>Use test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests.</p> <p>Report and present findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations.</p> <p>Identify scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments.</p> | | |
| Living things and their habitats | <p>Identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers.</p> <p>Explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil, and room to grow) and how they vary from plant to plant.</p> <p>Investigate the way in which water is transported within plants.</p> | <p>Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways.</p> <p>Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment.</p> <p>Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.</p> | <p>Describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird.</p> <p>Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.</p> | <p>Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including microorganisms, plants and animals.</p> <p>Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics.</p> |

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| | Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal. | | | |
| Animals, including humans | Identify that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food; they get nutrition from what they eat. Identify that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement. | Describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans. Identify the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions. Construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey. | Describe the changes as humans develop to old age. | Identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. Recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function. Describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans. |
| Rocks | Compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties. Describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock. Recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter | | | |
| Light | Recognise that they need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light. Notice that light is reflected from surfaces. Recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect their eyes. | | | Recognise that light appears to travel in straight lines. Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye. Explain that we see things because light travels from light sources to our |

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| | <p>Recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object.</p> <p>Find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change.</p> | | | <p>eyes or from light sources to objects and then to our eyes.</p> <p>Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them.</p> |
| <p>Properties and changes of materials</p> | | | <p>Identify substances that dissolve to form solutions and describe how to recover them.</p> <p>Separate solids using different methods.</p> <p>Identify reversible and irreversible changes.</p> <p>Compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties.</p> | |
| <p>States of matter</p> | | <p>Compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases.</p> <p>Observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius (°C).</p> <p>Identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.</p> | | |

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| Sound | | <p>Identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating.</p> <p>Recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear.</p> <p>Find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it.</p> <p>Find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it.</p> <p>Recognise that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases.</p> | | |
| Earth and Space | | | <p>Describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system.</p> <p>Describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth.</p> <p>Describe the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies.</p> <p>Use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.</p> | |
| Forces and magnets | <p>Compare how things move on different surfaces.</p> <p>Notice that some forces need contact between two objects, but magnetic forces can act at a distance.</p> | | <p>Explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object.</p> | |

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| | <p>Observe how magnets attract or repel each other and attract some materials and not others.</p> <p>Compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of whether they are attracted to a magnet, and identify some magnetic materials.</p> <p>Describe magnets as having two poles.</p> <p>Predict whether two magnets will attract or repel each other, depending on which poles are facing.</p> | | <p>Identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between moving surfaces.</p> <p>Recognise that some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.</p> | |
| <p>Evolution and inheritance</p> | | | | <p>Recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.</p> <p>Recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents.</p> <p>Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.</p> |

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| Electricity | | <p>Identify common appliances that run on electricity. Use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.</p> <p>Construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers.</p> <p>Recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit and associate this with whether or not a lamp lights in a simple series circuit.</p> <p>Recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.</p> | | <p>Associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit.</p> <p>Compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches.</p> <p>Use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.</p> |
| Longitudinal Study | How do the colours in our school allotment and orchard reflect the seasonal changes? | What changes can be observed in our Narnia garden over the year? | What seasonal changes can be observed in our school environment over 4 seasons? | How are the flora and fauna affected by changes in the pond environment over a year? |