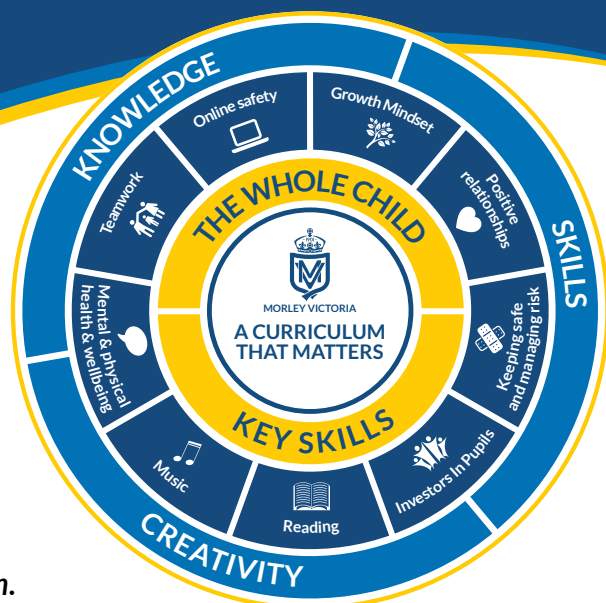


A Spotlight on our Curriculum

We are so proud of our curriculum offer; we have worked incredibly hard to get the curriculum to this level and continue to evolve so that it grows and develops with current research and with the children that attend Morley Victoria. The curriculum was recognised in our recent inspection as being a strength, they stated, *“The school has developed an ambitious and carefully constructed curriculum. Curriculum Leaders have ensured that the knowledge pupils should learn builds up over time.”*



As we move into the final part of this academic year, we thought we would give you an update on how each subject is progressing – each section has been written by the curriculum leader. Happy Reading!



Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

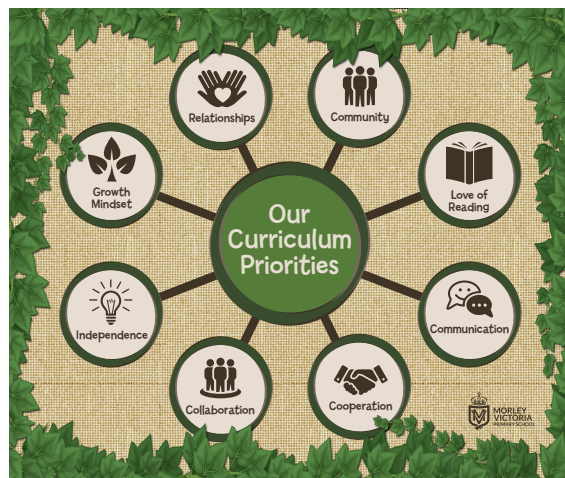
“The EYFS curriculum is ambitious, well planned and the staff have a strong knowledge of the children.”

OFSTED Inspector

In both Nursery and Reception, we have been developing the continuous provision in our outdoor areas to improve the quality of resources on offer. These improvements will enable us to teach and embed the vital skills and knowledge that we plan for through our curriculum. Keep your eyes peeled for further additions throughout the summer term! In Nursery our phonics skills are making great strides, and it is wonderful to see the children demonstrating their knowledge within their play. In Reception, we are using Drawing Club

as an approach to early mark making and writing, and have continued to strengthen this throughout the academic year. The children LOVE Drawing Club and always amaze us with their creativity and imagination. It makes us extremely proud when we look back at where they started in Nursery, to see the huge progress they make; from simple mark making to detailed drawings and sentences! Providing the children with new opportunities through our planned school visits is of high importance to us. For Nursery, 'Ian's Mobile Farm' will be visiting us here at school. We will be finding out about the different animals and of course will get to stroke them if we wish. This is a new experience for the school, and we hope it will be as exciting as it sounds. In Reception, we have already been up close and personal with a range of animals during our Zoo Lab school visit. We also had a fantastic day trip to "This Green Moon" forest school. We particularly loved toasting marshmallows on the campfire!

The EYFS Team





English – Early Reading and Phonics

“Phonics is clear and consistent across the year groups. Early reading has a high priority.” OFSTED Inspector

This year we continue to refine and implement Bug Club Phonics across school. We have adapted this scheme to meet the needs of our children and this is now embedded in EYFS and Year 1. The staggered roll out will continue year on year providing consistency for our learners. We are pleased with the positive outcomes and impact that the scheme is having on our early readers so far and are sure this will continue to go from strength to strength.

We share our values and visions about early reading with all parents/carers when their children begin their journey at Morley Victoria, and this is also part of our home-school agreements. We promote the master skill of reading across school and invest in purchasing high quality texts to ensure that our children are exposed to vocabulary rich books.

In reception, we have offered reading support sessions to all parents to have the knowledge they need to support their children as they begin to learn to read. Further reading and phonics workshops have taken place for key stage 1 parents/carers to offer support in the children’s next steps in their journey to being fluent and confident readers. We continue to invest in Active Learn Online, which provides all children with an online reading account where their teachers can allocate reading books as well as interactive games to support learning.

To encourage reading for pleasure we promote “Books of the Month” and share these in assemblies, we also have book club and mystery readers within the Early Years. We ensure that our libraries, outdoor book boxes, reading book corners and texts, that we use, are of the highest quality.

Mrs Smith, Miss Mapplebeck and Mr Precious - English Leaders



English – Reading

“Reading is given high priority in the school. Staff and pupils refer to it as the ‘master skill’ for all pupils to learn.” OFSTED inspector

English, as always, continues to be the master skill at Morley Victoria and all children are read to or with on a daily basis. We tirelessly look for new ways to engage and enthuse our children and do everything that we can to encourage a real love of reading. Through the year we have placed more focus on our poetry offer. All year groups have a poetry spine and staff and children have been reading these poems to continue to develop the content of the spine. We have also been part of a poetry slam event which has enabled our Year 5 and 6 children to collaborate with a poet and then the finalists to perform at the Carriage Works Theatre in Leeds. Over the course of the year, we have looked for as many opportunities as possible for the children to develop reading for pleasure. This has included investing in high quality texts and immersing our children in these carefully selected books - you will find books everywhere in school! We have several reading ambassadors from KS2 who spend time reading to and with the children in EYFS. Our reading volunteers also continue to read with many children across the school each week. For this year’s World Book Day, we shared a picture book called Flotsam which the children and staff all used in a variety of ways. Class teachers at Morley Victoria love to read and regularly share books and stories with the children either as part of the curriculum or for pleasure, modelling how to read aloud with prosody and engaging the children in real-life ‘book talk’. All this feeds into our whole class reading approach which continues to support our children to focus on our Magnificent Seven Reading Skills.



Mrs Smith, Miss Mapplebeck and
Mr Precious - English Leaders

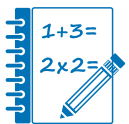


English - Writing

We continue to work hard to develop our writing at Morley Victoria and we are always looking for ways to improve how we teach and deliver writing to our children. We continually refine the writing process and this year we have been working with a renowned writing consultant, Vicky Bluck, who has spent some intensive days with class teachers planning purposeful and meaningful writing units for their children. We have also had staff training about how to incorporate sentence structure and grammar activities into our everyday teaching so that the children have a sound knowledge of both concepts as they move through school. We continue to ensure that the children enjoy what they are writing about, to develop writing for pleasure and we have had many of our children enter several Young Writers competitions resulting in children having their entries published in several books. We were thrilled this year with the writing the children produced on the book called Flotsam during our World Book Day celebrations. We have a full development plan in place for writing which will continue into next year and beyond.



Mrs Smith, Miss Mapplebeck and Mr Precious - English Leaders



Maths

Maths continues to be one of the most popular subjects at Morley Victoria. Our vision for maths is for every child to enjoy, to be challenged, and to have a love for mathematics; helping our children to become inquisitive, keen problem-solvers, motivated by the challenge of mathematics. This was recognised by OFSTED in our recent inspection where they commented that our maths curriculum *“has a strong vision and ambition for all children”* and is *“tailored to meet the needs of all learners”*. We continue to develop our curriculum every year, and all children continue to be taught skills to problem-solve through our ‘Super Six’ characters, providing children with the tools and confidence to tackle challenging mathematical problems. We love to enhance our maths curriculum every year and celebrate NSPCC Numbers Day. It is always an amazing day at Morley Victoria and it is great to see the perseverance, teamwork and enjoyment of the children (and staff!) when attempting these puzzles and challenges. Although our children continue to excel in maths and thoroughly enjoy the challenges of our curriculum, we are also striving to improve the subject further. We meet with other subject leaders from other schools and are always refining our curriculum. We have links with local businesses and facilities, such as Maths City in Leeds which we take children to visit each year. We are always developing our own staff’s CPD and attend the annual mathematics conference each year to see what is being recommended in the world of mathematics across primary education.



Mr Stott and Mr Precious – Maths Leaders



Science

We are incredibly proud that we successfully achieved the Primary Science Quality Mark Gilt Award which demonstrates the high-quality curriculum that we provide at Morley Victoria. We continue to enhance our quality first teaching, and this was recognised during our recent Ofsted inspection, *“Staff are well supported and the subject knowledge rich, fascinating and reframed for SEND pupils.”* Working outdoors, using drama and inviting a number of visitors into school, further enhances the children’s knowledge and gives lots of opportunities for all children to demonstrate their scientific knowledge. This practical approach continues to be built upon year on year and the children are enjoying the range of assessment. As Science Lead, it is a pleasure to speak to our children about their science lessons and gather their views and opinions. In Year 1, the children enjoyed exploring our outdoor environment to observe the changes from autumn to spring whilst identifying deciduous and evergreen trees. Year 2 spoke about planting seeds and placing them in different environments and the children were looking forward to observing the changes in the next few weeks. In Year 3, the children enjoyed using magnets to make some of their butterflies fly and concluded that some butterflies were too heavy to be moved by the magnet. Finally, in year 6, the children loved the opportunity to dissect a sheep’s heart. It was a practical and exciting (if not a bit gory) way to explore the structure of the heart and enable the children to really get to grips with the different chambers of the heart. It is clear just how much the children enjoy learning science at Morley Victoria and all classes regularly put examples of their work on twitter which we hope you have been able to have a look at. We are so proud of science at Morley Victoria and are excited to see the developments that will be made next year.



Mrs Scanlon – Science Leader



Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE)

PSHE will always be a core subject at Morley Victoria. We continue to adapt and enrich our PSHE curriculum even further to ensure that it remains fit for purpose by meeting the needs of our pupils and our community in modern society. This was recognised by OFSTED in our recent inspection where they commented that, *“Personal Development goes way beyond what is expected, children are strong, kind, respectful characters who see their role as influencers that can make a real difference.”* As a school, we place equal emphasis on academic achievement and social, emotional, mental, and physical wellbeing and continue to dedicate weekly time to PSHE lessons as well as enriching our curriculum through assemblies, high quality diverse texts, external visitors and agencies, and through extra-curricular opportunities. Our children have a very good understanding of British Values, Protected Characteristics and value moral justice; they value equality and diversity and they can talk confidently about how to keep themselves safe both in and out of school. All children recognise the importance of living a healthy lifestyle. This year we have introduced a new careers, finance and economic well-being scheme to enhance our offer and in September 2024 we will be further developing PSHE by introducing ‘1 Decision’, a highly recommended PSHE scheme, into our established curriculum. We continue to deliver ‘MindMate’ lessons each half term; during these sessions all children take part in an age-appropriate lesson from the Social Emotional Mental Health (SEMH) spiral curriculum, which includes six themes covering a variety of life issues. Our PSHE offer remains reactive to the needs of our pupils in an ever-changing world and will continue to develop next year and beyond.



Mrs Wood and Mrs Maybank – PSHE Leaders



Computing

Computing at Morley Victoria has continued to go from strength to strength. As a subject on our school development plan we are incredibly proud of the changes we continue to make to ensure our curriculum is specific to the needs of all of our children and enables everyone to succeed and thrive within this subject. In our recent OFSTED inspection, computing undertook a 'deep dive'. This comment really captures our computing curriculum: *"The scheme is balanced and interconnected where teachers are continuously refining and developing the key content. It is clear children have a secure sense of how to stay safe."* This year we have focused on developing our computational thinking skills, partaking in a range of activities within the four core areas: abstraction, algorithms, decomposition and pattern seeking. This links closely with our metacognition work and helps to build problem solving skills within a range of computing and non-computing related scenarios. We have continued to deliver weekly online safety starters using Project Evolve knowledge maps to help assess our understandings of the eight strands of online safety. While we know the impact of our online safety scheme is improving our children's knowledge of how to stay safe, we are constantly vigilant and aware of what is happening in the digital world and having open conversations about the digital lives of our children. Our extracurricular offer has continued to remain popular with all computing clubs at capacity. We have extended our after-school opportunities this year to include a coding club where are using our brand-new micro: bits.



Miss Allen – Computing Leader



Physical Education (PE)

At Morley Victoria PE, Physical Activity and School Sport is something that we are extremely proud of. PE continues to be one of our children's most enjoyable subjects and this is always highlighted within our pupil questionnaires. Our aim of PE is for the children to leave our school enjoying being physically active and wanting to continue to participate in sport, armed with the skills and knowledge they need, to live a healthy active lifestyle. Mr. Rhodes continues to play a huge part of our PE curriculum and delivers high quality PE lessons across the entire school, focusing on building on skills from year to year through our SPIRAL PE curriculum. We are also continuing to develop the subject across school and are continuing to focus our attention on dance and gymnastics. Ofsted commented on the strength of the curriculum and described it as *"beyond P.E."* We work with the "Leeds Well Schools" partnership, and this has improved and developed our PE and school sport offer even further through training and the experiences offered to the children and staff. During our recent Ofsted inspection this was seen as a real strength for the subject and they highlighted the quality partnership we have. The partnership has accelerated our school sport offer and we have seen an enormous increase in the number of children accessing school sport outside of school and have been able to offer a wider range of sports available. We place an equal balance on celebrating participation, but also competition. This has ranged from "come and try" activities, such as ice skating, orienteering, to competing in various sporting tournaments where our children can represent our school. Some children have then qualified to represent South Leeds which we are very proud of.



Celebrating participation and success is always important to us, so we have weekly class and individual PE certificates and celebrate achievements outside of school in our assemblies.

As a school, we are always looking at ways to develop the delivery of our teaching and we are currently participating in a “move2learn” project which is encouraging ways of incorporating physical activity into every-day lessons to promote a more active and engaging environment for all. This will work alongside the work we have already done with “Teach Active”. Ofsted commented on that as a school we offer more than P.E and we are always thinking of the pupils to make sure they are offered a wealth of activities and opportunities, with them at the forefront of every decision.

Miss Young and Mr Stott – PE Leaders



Languages – French

We continue to make changes to the languages curriculum at Morley Victoria and we are embedding a scheme of learning across Key Stage 2. In September 2020 we started a 4-year rolling curriculum whereby years 3-6 started learning the Year 3 French programme of study. This year we will have completed this programme, and all year groups are now learning their age-appropriate objectives and content. We have also introduced a language curriculum into EYFS and Key Stage One – although this is not a requirement of the National Curriculum, we feel that children love learning how to talk in other languages and we wanted to create a love of language and exposure to several different languages at a basic level before they start their journey of learning French in Year 3. The lessons have all been planned and resourced by a French-speaker and include audio clips for new vocabulary to help the teachers develop their language skills – they are learning alongside the children, which is great! The use of songs, games, rhymes and drama all help embed new language and grammatical skills. Our aim by time the children leave year 6 is very simple:

- 1) We want them to have an awareness of the wider world and cultures other than their own.
- 2) We want them to have a love of languages – and understand why it is important to learn one.
- 3) We want them to have fun learning a language and enjoy developing their skills in this subject at high school!



Miss Cook– Language Leader



Music

As ever, singing continues to play a huge role in the music curriculum at our school. The children thoroughly enjoy either their weekly singing session with their year group or the singing assemblies with their key stage in which they sing a wide range of songs from different time periods, cultures and that deliver different positive messages. This year, Mr Dougal has taken on the role of delivering all singing lessons alongside our pianist Mr Eastwood which has helped to bring even more consistency and developed clearer progression in the skills and musical styles being taught. We have been working hard to develop our understanding of music terminology during these sessions and developing our ability to sing harmonies and in parts from Nursery right the way through to Year 6.



Once again, we have had a wonderful experience as part of the 'Young Voices' choir at Sheffield arena and for the first time, a group of Year 2 children attended 'The Little Sing' at Pudsey Civic Hall where they learned new songs, rhythms and dances for a short performance with other schools.

We are continuing to build our use of Charanga music lessons into our curriculum. This exciting resource allows us to deliver music across the whole school and in the lessons the children have the opportunity to learn about different musical genres, the inter-related dimensions of music and learn musical notation through the glockenspiel. The feedback from the children continues to be positive and we are always looking for ways to develop this further.

Music is often very high on the favourite subjects list for our children, and we do everything that we can to encourage them to follow their passions in the area by offering opportunities for them to join various sessions and groups. We have increased the number of children in Year 4, 5 and 6 learning violins with our brilliant peripatetic teacher, and the Rocksteady sessions in which children learn singing, guitar, bass, drums or keyboards are fully subscribed. Throughout the year, our ever-changing school choir attends events to perform in the local community, including the St George's Day service at Leeds Minster and a performance at a local care home. We have continued to work alongside our ukulele teacher from Artforms to deliver high quality instrumental tuition and to develop Year 3 children's understanding of informal and formal notation; this has allowed them to develop their proficiency in the instruments and begin to compose and perform their own melodies too.

Mr Dougal – Music Leader



ART and Design

"The work produced is impressive and would fit well in a high school setting." OFSTED inspector

At Morley Victoria we believe that art and design stimulate creativity and imagination whilst giving each child opportunities to develop intellectually, emotionally, physically, and socially, opening them up to a world of possibilities. This year we have introduced lesson sequencing to the sketch books to give children a clear view of the topic ahead. Across the school, children are

encouraged to use their sketch books freely to develop their initial ideas, modify and produce a final piece they can be proud of. The children are continuing to learn the 7 elements of art knowing these elements will allow them to analyse, appreciate, write and chat about art. Pupils in our school are confident to explore, experiment and take risks, placing value on the process and journey that they take, not just on the finished product. Across the classes children recognise that art is about what each individual person sees and is truly their work and not for others to judge, therefore the children know that teachers do not mark these books, but each child is given the opportunity to evaluate their own work.

We have enriched our art curriculum by organising our second trip to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, where children took part in either screen printing or sculpture building. Recently a group of year 5 children were given the chance to take part in an art project at another school which led to a visit to the Leeds Art Gallery. The Art Challenge homework is continuing to be a success across Key Stage 2 and we are very impressed with the standard of work being produced.



Mrs Grayston and Ms Wood – Art and Design Leaders



Climate Change

At Morley Victoria we are continuing to develop our climate change curriculum year on year to ensure that the children are well equipped with the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes they need to act as agents of change. With the constantly evolving issues facing our planet, our curriculum aims to share a message of shared responsibility with a focus on taking action. Events, such as Earth Day, are recognised each year and children are given opportunities to discuss and explore why this day is so important. Climate change is recognised as an important area of our school curriculum and this year we have introduced a book to follow them through school on their journey and show their progression in the subject. Climate change objectives are taught all the way through school from nursery all the way to year 6 in a progressive, age-appropriate manner. Subjects such as science, geography and PSHE are woven into discrete climate change lessons whereby investigations, questions, thoughts and feelings are all catered for. The 'Eco-Warriors' are continuing to look at sustainability and ways to reduce waste in school.



Miss Smith – Climate Change Leader



History

At Morley Victoria, we teach History in a way that helps our children understand the world we live in today and then inspires them to want to know about the past. Our curriculum strives to explore the diversity of human experience in Britain and beyond. History is a much-loved subject by both staff and pupils, and we are always searching for innovative and exciting opportunities for our little Historians. This year we have had a range of visits, workshops and themed days to help our children understand historical concepts such as chronology, cause and consequence, enquiry, comparison, change and significance. Year 6 ventured to the Imperial War Museum as part of their work on the Second World War, while Year 3 were archaeologists and excavated Roman artefacts in the school garden! Year 4 had a "sweet" experience at York's Chocolate Story to understand the significance of chocolate to the Mayans. Our staff are continually pursuing opportunities for our children to be curious, think critically, ask perceptive questions and form connections. To help them with this, we are continuing to focus on building schematic threads within the subject (which connects each year groups' learning) with our four key words: empire, migration, parliament, and civilisation. We want the children to make those vital connections in their learning across year groups which can make such a big difference in helping their history knowledge to 'stick' to then be built upon. Our recent Ofsted inspection complimented this as they noticed that the children can both remember more and independently make comparisons between significant time periods/events. With the continued passion from our staff and enthusiasm from our children, we know that History will continue to go from strength-to-strength next year!



Miss Shaw – History Leader



Design and Technology (DT)

DT is an important subject at Morley Victoria, helping to develop our pupils' skills, knowledge and understanding in design across all strands of the DT curriculum: structures, mechanisms, textiles, electrical control and food. DT also provides incredible opportunities for our pupils to develop their problem-solving skills and apply their learning in science, computing, maths and art to real-life contexts.



We have continued to develop our Design and Technology (DT) curriculum this year, with each year group having already taken part in DT projects; designing their own product to fit a design brief. Right across school we are following our 'Whole School DT Process' which helps to ensure everyone develops their skills in all aspects of DT, including learning about an established designer, investigating and exploring existing products and materials, focused practical tasks that help us learn new construction skills, designing and making our product and finally evaluating all our hard work against the initial design brief.

Our dedicated pupil DT kitchen has continued to enable all our pupils from Nursery through to Y6 to prepare and cook delicious recipes in their food technology lessons. Pupils have practised many new cooking skills, learned more about nutrition and the importance of a balanced diet. We have also introduced a new 'Agents of Change' programme into Year 5 and 6 to support the cooking strand of DT.

Miss McCullagh – DT Leader



Geography

At Morley Victoria we continue to work hard to inspire children's curiosity and fascination about the world around them and its people, in a way that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. The children at Morley Victoria are well equipped with the knowledge about diverse places, people and environments thanks to our well thought out geography curriculum. The progressive geography skills are taught in each topic across school, to equip our children with the geography skills they need. We currently hold the SILVER Primary Geography Quality Mark, demonstrating our effectiveness in whole school approaches that support excellence in geography. Staff and children have worked relentlessly to ensure the geography content and coverage is clear across school, in order to achieve this. The coverage of Geographical skills and vocabulary have also been a great focus this year and the children have impressed us with their recall and understanding. During their time at Morley Victoria, the children have many experiences of visits and visitors to enhance their learning, such as trips to This Green Moon and residential visits to Whitby and Ingleborough Hall. All children also experience field work in the local area of Morley. Geography continues to go from strength to strength at Morley Victoria, inspiring children to discover more about the fascinating world around them.



Miss Sunter - Geography Leader



Religion and World Views (RE)

"The children are strong and respectful characters. They are humble and have humility." OFSTED inspector

At Morley Victoria we strive to create a nurturing and inclusive environment, we want the children to show tolerance, respect, empathy and kindness in our school and local community. We follow the Leeds agreed RE syllabus Believing and Belonging, which enables the children to develop a broad and balanced understanding of religions and worldviews, it empowers the children to develop and use critical thinking skills, it broadens perspectives of faiths and cultures, encouraging tolerance of diversity, it develops their own personal worldview, identity and spirituality, while encouraging the children to be positive, participating citizens of the world. We do this through interactive lessons, visits and visitors, discussions and creative activities. We have been working hard at making the learning journey visible in books this year and in line with other subjects. There is a new Leeds syllabus planned to be launched in September 2024, so we are preparing for this and look forward to introducing this to the staff and children.



Miss Cannell – Religion and Worldviews Leader



Our Curriculum Crusaders

The Curriculum Crusaders are a group of children from across school that support the school to make improvements to the curriculum - they allow pupil voice to shape the curriculum offer. They have been busy this year recruiting some more crusaders, reviewing the MV pupil passport (50 things all pupils should have the opportunity to do before they leave MV), planning and organising activities and resources for Meta Morning. They have also completed a learning walk with the Governors on Governor Day and were very much part of the OFSTED inspection.

"There is crystallization of everything coming together - subject knowledge is strong, subject leaders are relentless and have thought carefully about what they want." OFSTED inspector

At Morley Victoria we are continually shaping our curriculum for our children.

