Smiling International School

3rd GRADE

CURRICULUM TOPICS

A.S.2025-2026

Mathematics

DEVELOPING REASONING, LOGIC AND PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS

Main objectives:

- recognize and interpret important words that suggest addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division (e.g. *more*, *less*, *altogether*, *each*, *difference*, *equal groups*)
- learn and apply effective methods to read, interpret, and solve word problems confidently
- solve real-life problems using visual aids like diagrams, pictures, and tables
- identify and select the important data in a problem, filtering out what's unnecessary or confusing
- recognise numbers or facts that are described in words rather than given explicitly
- detect missing, irrelevant, or contradictory information that might affect solving the problem

PLACE VALUE AND THE FOUR OPERATIONS

Main objectives:

- recognise the place value of numbers up to 10,000
- read, write, order, and compare whole numbers up to 10,000
- master and carry out addition and subtraction with numbers up to 10,000
- understand a written problem and resolve it by selecting the appropriate operation and using problem-solving skills
- understand and apply the properties of addition and subtraction
- round numbers to a given value
- multiply and divide (with and without remainders) numbers up to 1000 using a variety of methods (mentally and in column)
- learn, understand and apply the properties of multiplication (commutative, distributive and associative)
- use effective strategies to memorise doubles and halves for numbers to 100
- explore strategies and tricks to multiply and divide by 10, 100 and 1000
- learn, understand and apply the invariant property of division

FRACTIONS AND DECIMALS

Main objectives:

- identify and name fractions, such as unit fractions, halves, fourths, thirds etc
- understand and explain the role of the numerator and denominator
- identify, order and compare fractions using shapes, number lines and pictures
- begin to calculate fractions of amounts using pictures
- begin to explore equivalent fractions using pictures and models
- read, write, compare and order decimals to thousandths.
- add and subtract decimals
- understand the relationship between fractions, decimals and parts of a whole number, making initial references to decimal numbers and decimal fraction equivalents.

MEASUREMENT AND MONEY

Main objectives:

- carry out measurements of length, mass and capacity using standard units
- express measurements and equivalent measurements of length, mass and capacity using multiples and submultiples
- carry out practical investigations to record measurements of length, capacity, and mass
- understand and solve problems involving gross, net and tare weight
- identify and name euro coins and notes, understanding their value in relation to decimal numbers
- find different combinations of notes and coins that equal the same amounts of money
- add and subtract amounts of money and give correct change
- solve real-life money problems

TIME

Main objectives:

- tell and write the time to the nearest five minutes on analogue clock and digital clocks
- learn different time units and their multiples to calculate equivalences (e.g. 2 minutes = 180 seconds, 14 days = 2 weeks)
- solve time problems, such as finding the time difference between two events or calculating how long an activity will take.

GEOMETRY

Main objectives:

- identify and describe different types of lines, line segments and angles

- recognise and name 2d and 3d shapes, and classify them by their properties
- understand symmetry and create symmetrical shapes and patterns
- calculate perimeter and area of simple polygons
- use geometric language to describe position, direction, turns and angles
- understand and plot coordinate points on a grid

STATISTICS

Main objectives:

- classify objects, shapes and numbers according to one or more property and be able to represent them graphically
- collect, organise and interpret data using different graphic formats

- classify a set of raw data according to common fixed characteristics
- collect data through questionnaire and survey methods
- collect, organise, interpret and represent information using bar charts, tally charts, pictographs and frequency tables)

English

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

Main objectives:

- ask and answer questions using correct grammar
- listen to and recall short sentences and instructions
- prepare and perform texts using suitable expression, tone and vocabulary
- take turns in discussion and build on others' ideas
- listen to others' views and respond with respect, showing agreement or disagreement appropriately

GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION

Main objectives:

- use punctuation accurately, including full stops, capital letters, commas, speech marks, exclamation and question marks
- use apostrophes correctly for contractions and possession
- use singular and plural nouns accurately
- follow grammar rules for subject-verb agreement
- use possessive, subject and object pronouns correctly

- form and use the present simple, past simple, present continuous, past continuous, imperative and future tenses
- use regular and irregular past tense verbs with increasing accuracy
- use coordinating and subordinating conjunctions correctly
- form and use comparative and superlative adjectives
- understand and use main and subordinating clauses
- use adverbs, adjectives and prepositions correctly
- identify and use articles, quantifiers and determiners

WRITING

Main objectives:

- use varied verbs and adjectives to enhance writing
- choose powerful vocabulary to increase impact
- re-read writing to check for clarity and accuracy
- organise extended stories into paragraphs
- describe settings and develop character profiles
- write narratives with a clear beginning, middle and end, resolving conflicts logically
- use dialogue effectively in stories
- write and perform simple poems, focusing on sound and meaning
- create short play scripts
- write non-chronological texts like leaflets, instructions, reports and letters
- write first-person recounts such as diaries and blogs
- summarise and review books or texts
- record information using fact files, mind maps, charts or diagrams

SPELLING AND VOCABULARY

Main objectives:

- spell high- and medium-frequency words confidently
- build on ks1 spelling patterns like vowel sounds, double consonants, silent letters, prefixes and suffixes
- identify syllables and split compound words
- spot and correct misspelled words in own writing
- use independent spelling strategies such as sounding out and analogy
- spell words with common prefixes and suffixes (un-, dis-, re-, -ful, -less, -ly, non-, miss-)
- add -ed and -ing to verbs, applying spelling rules correctly
- learn and apply plural spelling rules (s, es, y/ies, f/ves)
- use and spell homophones and homonyms correctly
- explore and use synonyms for common verbs and adjectives
- use similes and metaphors in writing

- organise words alphabetically

READING AND COMPREHENSION

Main objectives:

- learn and use decoding strategies to read unfamiliar words
  infer meanings of unknown words using context clues
- begin to understand figurative language
- understand and use terms like fact, fiction, and nonfiction
- ask and answer questions to show understanding of a text
- identify and underline key words and phrases within a text
- describe characters using traits, motivations and feelings
- read, perform and recite poems featuring alliteration, assonance and rhyme
- understand and identify features of playscripts
- read and understand non-chronological reports
- recognise how various nonfiction texts are organised, including reference books, newspapers and leaflets

Science

CORE SKILLS

- ask questions about what they want to find out, plan simple tests, choose and use equipment safely, measure using standard units (e.g. cm, ml, °C) with help
- record findings in tables, charts, diagrams, or notes, talk about what they notice and look for simple patterns or differences, discuss what the results mean
- suggest other ways to test an idea, write about their investigations, share their work with the class, use scientific words

LIGHT AND DARK

*Underlined objectives are not in the Oxford textbook but should be taught using other resources

Main objectives:

- identify different sources of light and understand that darkness is the absence of light
- understand how shadows are made and investigate and classify materials as transparent, translucent and opaque
- understand that the eye works by processing light and understand the colours of the spectrum
- understand how astronauts protect their eyes in space.

ROCKS AND SOIL

Main objectives:

- name different types of rock, compare and group rocks based on their properties and explore their uses
- understand how fossils are formed
- understand the importance of soil and identify different types of soil and give examples of their use
- explain that fossils are formed over millions of years when living things have been trapped within rock

Moonshot

- understand what the Moon is, how it formed and what it is made of.
- core sampling on the Moon (lunar regolith) lunar rock ID

FLOWERING PLANTS

Main objectives:

- identify and describe the function of the main parts of flowering plants
- understand and describe the conditions that plants need to survive and grow
- understand and explain the life cycle of a plant
- explain the processes of photosynthesis and pollination and give examples of seed dispersal methods

Moonshot

- understand what hydroponic germination is and the water cycle on the Moon.

FORCES AND MAGNETS

Main objectives:

- understand that pushes and pulls are examples of forces
- describe ways in which forces can make objects move and stop. Learn about friction
- identify the properties of magnets and develop an understanding of magnetic forces
- investigate gravity and how two objects of different mass, but of equal size and shape, fall with the same speed

Moonshot

- understand the aerodynamics of flying: paper airplanes investigation.
- understand gravity and why meteorites hit planets. Impact craters investigation.

- plan and carry out investigations with rockets (javelin rockets and stomp rockets)

HEALTH, SKELETON AND MUSCLES

Main objectives:

- understand the key life processes of humans
- understand the importance of a healthy, balanced diet
- identify symptoms of infectious diseases, explain their causes and identify possible preventions
- explain the role that exercise plays in maintaining a healthy body
- identify the main parts of the human skeleton and describe the function of bones
- describe the role of the muscles in creating movement
- understand the use of medicines to treat different illnesses and learn how to use medicines safely
- describe the different ways in which the human body uses water and explain the importance of drinking clean water

Moonshot!

- understand how astronauts filter water in space and how will they get clean water on the Moon
- understand why astronauts need to work out a lot and eat a balanced diet to offset the insurgence of osteoporosis.
- understand what astronauts eat and how they stay fit (prepare posters showing realistic space meals)
- build a lunar dwelling (Moonshot fair)

ICT

ONLINE SAFETY

Main objectives:

- know how to stay safe online, including potential dangers like cyberbullying and inappropriate content
- know the concept of an online presence and how online actions can have lasting effects.
- discuss appropriate online communication and sharing of information.

FOUNDATIONAL HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE SKILLS

Main objectives:

- create new documents, type text, and use basic formatting options like changing font, size, and alignment.
- insert images from their computer or the web, and learn to resize and manipulate them within the document.
- use bullet points, numbered lists, and tables to organize information
- understand the concept of cloud storage and how Google Drive saves their work automatically
- create simple presentations with text and images.
- know hardware and software components.
- use input and output devices like keyboards, mice, and printers.
- create presentations on different topics

INTRODUCING PROGRAMMING

Main objectives:

- Use simple block-based coding programs (Code.org)
- Understand and use **sequencing** (putting steps in the right order).
- Use **loops** to repeat actions in your code (e.g., make a character move in a circle).
- Use **events** to make things happen (e.g., "when I click the green flag, start the program").
- Draw step-by-step instructions using arrows and pictures to show what should happen first, next, and last (use flowcharts).
- Test your code to see if it works the way you want (debugging).

History

CORE SKILLS

- discover the people who study the past (e.g. historian, librarian, archaeologist, palaeontologist) and the tools they use
- investigate how we know about the past using artefacts, fossils and examining historical sources
- evaluate different sources according to their type and usefulness
- differentiate between primary and secondary sources and their usefulness
- begin to conduct own research into the past, using books or ICT (e.g. research about a famous historical person)
- create timelines to show the past and future
- understand and use conventional system for dating (AD, not BC)

HISTORY OF THE EARTH

Main objectives:

- know and be able to recount the first stages of the history of the universe
- know and be able to recount the first stages of the history of the earth
- know and be able to recount the first stages of life on earth
- investigate the origins of the continents, and the supercontinent Pangea
- investigate the development of early life forms
- understand the basic concept of the evolution of life
- understand that the history of life on earth can be broken down into different eras
- produce visual and sequential charts, diagrams and timelines to illustrate the above information

DINOSAURS

Main objectives:

- understand what early land-based life was like, and identify some precursors to the dinosaurs
- recognise the main features of some well-known dinosaurs – their diet, physical features, habitat, etc
- explore the world and environment that dinosaurs inhabited, and understand how it differed from the world today
- investigate how we know about dinosaurs – e.g. understand the process of fossil formation, where and how fossils are found and what fossils can tell us, and what they can't
- find out who palaeontologists are and what they do
- create maps to show dinosaur distributions
- create scale models / drawings of different dinosaurs
- investigate different theories for why dinosaurs disappeared

EVOLUTION and THE PALEOLITHIC PERIOD

Main objectives:

- understand key stages and events in the evolution of early mammals and primates
- create timelines and diagrams to show human development
- trace and map the migration of different hominid species
- explore how the environment influenced early humans
- identify anatomical changes in early humans and investigate their causes
- learn how palaeontologists study the past and draw conclusions
- compare physical features of hominids like australopithecus, homo habilis, homo erectus, and neanderthals

- examine milestones such as tool use, art, and fire, and which hominids first achieved them in sequence
- understand how prehistoric humans obtained food and the evidence supporting this
- study the key features and unique traits of homo sapiens
- investigate art, technology, homes, and daily life of homo sapiens
- compare and contrast hominid species using various sources

THE NEOLITHIC PERIOD

Main objectives:

- understand the main features of daily life in the Neolithic period
- investigate the reasons, and advantages and disadvantages of the move from hunting to agriculture
- investigate the reasons for, and consequences of the domestication of animals
- investigate the advantages and disadvantages of settled vs nomadic life
- explore Neolithic innovations such as pottery, metalwork, art and fabric weaving
- compare and contrast life in the Neolithic with earlier periods
- sequence events, showing changes throughout the evolution of humans (discuss what has changed and what has stayed the same

Geography

CORE SKILLS

- use a compass to find directions in real life and on maps
- draw plans and maps using symbols and keys to show what things are, read and make simple graphs with information about places
- learn about different kinds of maps, like physical, political, and digital maps, and what they show, find information from different maps and sources, use longitude and latitude to find places on a map
- use scale on maps to understand how far places are in real life

LANDSCAPES

Main objectives:

- identify the main physical features of different environments and landscapes
- explore the differences between natural and man-made features

- use maps, direct observation, and other sources to identify and classify landscape features like rivers, mountains, and plains
- describe landscapes by their physical geographical features
- build knowledge about the local area, the po plain, and its major features
- investigate how mountains, hills, plains, cities, rivers, lakes, and seaside areas form and change over time
- analyse both natural features and human-made changes in these landscapes
- understand how erosion and human activities like pollution, deforestation, and farming impact the environment
- recognise whether these human effects are positive or negative

WORLD HERITAGE SITES

Main objectives:

- understand what a world heritage site is, and why some places are considered particularly important to protect and preserve
- investigate the different classifications of world heritage sites
- investigate some of the main World Heritage Sites in Italy (including Ferrara)
- explore some other important world heritage sites across the world

FOOD FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Main objectives:

- understand that our food comes from many different places
- investigate the way that foods are produced in different countries, and how food gets to Italy
- investigate where the food we eat comes from, produce maps and other work to show this
- investigate a specific example, such as bananas, and see the journey the food makes
- contrast the ways of life in the country where the food is produced, to the country where it is consumed (Italy)

Italiano

Ascolto e oralità

- Partecipare agli scambi comunicativi rispettando i turni di parola e intervenendo in modo pertinente.
- Comprendere l'argomento e le informazioni principali dei discorsi affrontati in classe.

- Ascoltare testi narrativi ed espositivi, coglierne il senso globale e saperli rielaborare in modo chiaro.
- Comprendere e dare istruzioni semplici relative a giochi o attività conosciute.
- Raccontare esperienze personali o storie di fantasia seguendo l'ordine cronologico ed esplicitando le informazioni necessarie alla comprensione.
- Ricostruire oralmente le fasi di esperienze vissute, in ambito scolastico o extrascolastico.
- Formulare istruzioni chiare e comprensibili.
- Porre domande coerenti e rilevanti rispetto ai contenuti ascoltati.

Lettura

- Padroneggiare la lettura strumentale sia ad alta voce, curandone l'espressione, sia in modalità silenziosa.
- Intuire il contenuto di un testo a partire da titolo, immagini e parole-chiave.
- Comprendere il significato globale e le informazioni principali di testi narrativi, espositivi e informativi.
- Leggere rispettando la punteggiatura.
- Ampliarsi attraverso la lettura di testi di vario tipo e riconoscerne struttura e caratteristiche.
- Ricavare informazioni utili per arricchire le proprie conoscenze.
- Ampliare il lessico attraverso la lettura.

Scrittura

- Scrivere sotto dettatura curando l'ortografia e la punteggiatura.
- Produrre testi descrittivi e narrativi semplici e coerenti, collegati a situazioni concrete o fantastiche.
- Sviluppare la capacità di descrivere luoghi, persone e animali.
- Strutturare testi scritti con inizio, svolgimento e conclusione.
- Inventare e sviluppare favole, fiabe, miti e leggende.
- Rispondere in modo completo e pertinente a domande scritte.
- Applicare le principali regole ortografiche e di punteggiatura anche nella produzione autonoma.

Lessico

- Comprendere il significato di parole nuove nei testi, usando il contesto e la conoscenza di famiglie di parole.
- Ampliare il vocabolario attraverso letture, attività orali e ricerche mirate.

- Riutilizzare termini nuovi appresi in contesti appropriati.

- Effettuare semplici ricerche lessicali per comprendere parole ed espressioni incontrate nei testi.
- Utilizzare un lessico preciso e specifico per esprimersi con chiarezza.

Elementi di grammatica e riflessione linguistica

- Riconoscere e utilizzare correttamente il punto, la lettera maiuscola e i principali segni di punteggiatura.
- Formulare frasi corrette e complete sia oralmente sia per iscritto.
- Conoscere e distinguere i principali elementi sintattici (nome, articolo, aggettivo, verbo) e svolgere semplici analisi grammaticali.
- Applicare le conoscenze ortografiche nella scrittura e iniziare a revisionare i propri testi.
- Confrontare testi per coglierne caratteristiche specifiche e differenze.
- Riconoscere se una frase è completa, individuando gli elementi essenziali che la costituiscono.

Citizenship

The Constitution

Main objectives:

- develop positive attributes such as sharing, cooperation and generosity
- develop an awareness of the rights and responsibilities that all people are entitled to
- autonomously demonstrate respectful behaviours which contribute to building positive relationships with peers, adults and the surrounding environment
- demonstrate care for one's own health and safety
- know road safety rules and responsibilities

Sustainable Development

Main objectives:

- develop responsible attitudes and behaviours towards the preservation and protection of the environment
- show appreciation towards the environment and be aware of the importance of respecting and valuing it
- understand the need for taking action on sustainable development in relation to the goals of Agenda 2030

Digital Citizenship

Main objectives:

- be able to use new technology appropriately and safely
- use technology actively in the learning process with and without adult guidance