



Viaduct Federation of Schools

Year 4 Autumn Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome Back! We hope you are ready for Autumn 2. We are really looking forward to seeing the children. Our topic for this half term will be 'Polar Explorers'.

As we head towards a busy Christmas period, please keep an eye on dates to note and Parent Mail for upcoming events. If any issues or concerns arise, please do not hesitate to contact the school to speak to your child's class teacher.

Subject Overviews

English

We will begin this term by retelling 'The Lost Thing' by Shaun Tan. We will write a 3rd person narrative before changing our context to 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers where the children will independently write a 3rd person narrative linking to our 'Polar Explorers' topic. Following this, we will write a recount linked to the story 'Lily and the Snowman'. We will write two different recounts allowing the children to empathise with both characters and think about the story from more than one perspective. Throughout this term, we will be developing our grammar and spelling skills with focussed lessons, as well as reading Polar themed texts to develop fluency along with analysing characters, recalling key events and inference skills.

Maths

In Maths, we will begin to develop our understanding of more of the four operations including short multiplication and division. Following this, children will have the opportunity to learn how to convert between different units of metric measures and apply this to problems. Linking to statistics, the children will read and interpret both bar charts and pictograms having to answer questions linked to their observations. Moving forward, we will then explore perimeter and area of different shapes as well as looking for lines of symmetry and identifying different angles. Throughout this term, the children will be given regular opportunities to practise and embed their times tables facts and we encourage the children to practise regularly at home.

Science

We will continue our Science by learning about the topic 'States of Matter' We will be learning about the different states of matter and how temperature can affect these. We will carry out scientific investigations to support our scientific understanding and focussing on fair testing and recording observations. Children will also learn about the water cycle and link this to the three different states of matter.

Computing

In Computing, children will be working on their basic computer skills including, keyboard functions, creating and organising folders and copying and pasting information.

Geography

In Geography, we will complete a comparative study of the Polar Regions, identifying key geographical features and using maps, atlases and digital mapping to locate countries and describe features studied. We will develop our locational knowledge by using compass points as well as lines of longitude and latitude.

RE

In RE, we will spend the year focusing on Hinduism. During this term, we will focus specifically on Hindu Gods, places of worship, the holy book and the importance of difference symbols.

Art

In Art, we will be using our knowledge linked to our work on Polar Explorers to create an image of the Northern Lights using chalk as our medium and Lindsey Dahl as our inspiration.

French

French will be taught throughout the year by Mrs Coffey and the children will continue their learning by constructing sentences about their birthdays and other celebrations. Children will work towards writing party invites in French using their new knowledge of days of the week and months of the year.

Music

This term, we will be learning to play the keyboards. Children will begin by learning how to play different notes of the pentatonic scale before learning to read the notations and play phrases of music. The aim of this term is for the children to compose their own pentatonic phrase.

Games / P.E

On Thursday afternoons, the children will have a Games session either focussing on hockey or basketball. On a Wednesday morning the children will have a 45 minute indoor PE lesson and a 45 minute outdoor PE lesson. The indoor PE lesson this term will focus on badminton whilst the outdoor session will be OAA.

PE Kit Reminder: Children are to come in wearing their PE kit on the days when they have PE (Wednesdays and Thursdays).

Year group info-pictures below from left to right:

- **Head of Year 4** – Miss A Burns
- **Teachers:** Mr M Batchelor, Miss K Harrison, Miss K Orange
- **Teaching Assistants:** Mrs T Mawson, Mrs C Dilger, Mrs H Rogers



Homework

Spellings - children will receive new spellings on a Thursday which will be stuck in their log books. We ask that they access Spelling Shed 2 times a week minimum.

Reading - We ask that children are listened to while they read for about 10 minutes a day. They have an appropriate reading book given to them by the school but they could also choose to read a book from home or the library. Please support them by recording their reading in their organisers. Children who read at least 5 times per week are awarded a raffle ticket. This gives them an opportunity to be entered into a book draw at the end of each half term.

Maths - The children will be focusing on their times tables with TTRockstars. We ask that they access this 2 times a week minimum.

Homework – Topic homework will be sent out throughout the term (this is longer, project-based activities). Children are encouraged to complete their homework because it reinforces the learning which takes place in school and is another opportunity to practise. Those who complete their homework regularly and to a good standard can earn rewards.

Snack -Please remember to pack a healthy snack for your child to eat at playtime along with a refillable water bottle.

- www.linguafun.eu—for French
- www.ttrockstars.com—for times tables
- www.edshed.com—for spelling practice through games

Your children have logins for both of these websites.

Logins are stuck into their personal log books.

Dates to remember

- Tuesday 31st October – Maths & Science Day
- Tuesday 31st October - 4pm – 5:30pm – Halloween Disco
- Tuesday 2nd November – 9am – 10am – Open Morning
- Tuesday 2nd November – 4:30pm – 5:30pm – Open Evening for Prospective Parents
- Wednesday 22nd November – School Photos
- Wednesday 29th November - 4pm – 5:30pm – Lantern Parade at Bushfield
- Friday 15th December – Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch
- Monday 18th – Polar Day
- Tuesday 19th December – House Art Day and French Breakfast.
- Wednesday 20th December – Christmas Performance.

BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

Did you know we now have a Facebook page?

We have created a Facebook page which will show any news and events across the Viaduct Federation of schools, it is titled 'The Bushfield and Wyvern Viaduct Federation of Schools'. Like us and keep up to date with any fun school events and news!

