



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 with a unit all about area. The children will learn what area is and how to calculate it by counting squares. Furthermore, the children will compare shapes with different areas and draw shapes of a given area. Following this, the children will complete a unit based around multiplication and division. The children will learn and practise their 3-, 6-, 7-, 9-, 11- and 12-times tables as well as learning to multiply and divide numbers by 1 and 0. 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

This half term the children will be exploring the fascinating world of Sounds. The children will discover that sounds are created when something vibrates, and that these vibrations travel through a medium, such as air, until they reach our ears. Through hands-on investigations, the children will learn that the pitch of a sound depends on features of the object producing it, while the volume is linked to the strength of its vibrations. Children will also observe how sounds become fainter the further you move away from the source.

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, the children 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, the children will reflect on how sacred texts and stories help people understand the beliefs and values of others. They will explore what is important to many non-religious families and how they choose to live good lives, as well as the kinds of stories that matter to those with non-religious beliefs such as humanism. Alongside this, the children will consider Christian beliefs about who Jesus is, gain an insight into how faith and worldview shape the way people live and make decisions.

Art

In Art, we will be linking our work to our topic of Polar Explorers to create an image of the Northern Lights using chalk as our medium and Lindsey Dahl as our inspiration. Firstly, the children will analyse the work of Lindsey Dahl. They will also have the opportunity to learn different techniques when drawing with chalk. Furthermore, they will also learn how to add perspective into their artwork.

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 a Thursday morning, the children will have a 1-hour indoor PE lesson. The focus of this lesson will be dance. On Monday afternoons, the children will have 2 Games sessions one focussing on hockey and the other focussing on a combination of netball and basketball.

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

Year group info-pictures below from left to right:

- **Head of Year 4** – Miss A Burns
- **Teachers:** Miss B Evans, Mrs S Sparshott- Dzialoszynski (Mrs D), Mrs A Dhanji
- **Teaching Assistants:** Mrs T Mawson, Mrs M Haith



Homework

Spellings - Children will receive new spellings weekly which will be stuck in their spelling books. We ask that they access Spelling Shed 2 times a week minimum and complete their home practise in their spelling book.

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. Children who read at least 5 times per week are awarded a raffle ticket.

Maths - The children will be focusing on their times tables using TTRockstars. We ask that they access this regularly (equivalent of 10 minutes per day).

Homework – Topic homework will be sent out throughout the term (this is longer, project-based activities). Children are encouraged to complete their homework as 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 breaktime along with a refillable water bottle.

- www.ttrackstars.com—for times tables
- www.edshed.com—for spelling practise through games

Your child has logins for both of these websites.

Logins are stuck into their personal log books.

Dates to remember

- Wednesday 3rd December – Panto (in school day)
- Friday 12th December – Christmas Jumper & Lunch Day
- Monday 15th December – Polar Day
- Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th December
 - French Breakfast and Art Days
 - Christmas Performances (in school day) There will be a separate ParentMail to advise when each house is performing.

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!



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