



## Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter – Summer Term

Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome back! We hope you have all had a restful break. Our main topic for the this half term is 'Location, Location, Location'. This topic will be furthering the children's understanding of the UK's cities, location and culture. We will be linking our learning across the curriculum so that the children really get the sense of the history and the culture. If you have any questions or wish to speak to your child's class teacher, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

### Subject Overviews

#### English

During this half term, linked to our topic of the UK, the children will be basing their writing around the story of Paddington Bear. The children will have the opportunity to develop their narrative skills by retelling the story of Paddington Bear. The children will also be writing a persuasive advert in the hope of employing a dragon whisper to help save Wolverton from an incoming dragon. Throughout this term, the children will continue to develop their grammatical knowledge with focussed lessons linked to key grammatical terminology, including determiners, pronouns, adverbials, apostrophes and subordinate clauses. Of course, the children will be reading Paddington Bear to develop inference skills, find supporting ideas using evidence from the text and identifying how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning. The children will also be continuing to develop the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting through focussed lessons.

#### Maths

The focus for this half term will be decimals. The children will learn that decimal can be created using tenths and hundredths. They will learn to identify tenths and hundredths as both decimals and fractions. Following this, the children will learn to order and compare decimals as well as how to round decimals. The children will also continue to practise their written methods with a dedicated calculation lesson each week. Throughout this term, the children will still be given regular opportunities to practise and embed their times tables facts during our afternoon sessions and we encourage the children to practise regularly at home to help earn their Times Tables certificates.

#### Science

The focus of this half term will be Living Things and their Habitats. The children will be grouping living things based on a variety of characteristics. The children will also learn about vertebrates and invertebrates before moving onto understanding and creating classification keys. Finally, they will look at how environmental changes can affect the habitats of certain living things.

#### Computing

During this half term, the children will be using Scratch. This unit builds upon the children's previous knowledge of sequencing, selection and repetition in programs as well as working with variables. The children will use their knowledge of sequencing to create a Maths quiz for their peers to complete.

## Geography

In the 1st half term, our Geography work will be focusing on developing the children's understanding of the UK. The children will use atlases to locate capital cities, rivers and mountains within the UK. The children will also learn about the counties that the UK is split into. To finish the topic, they will look at land use across the UK and the natural resources that can be found in the UK.

## Religious Education (RE)

The children will be exploring Sikhism and what it means to follow this faith. They will learn that Sikhs believe in one God and discover the important role of the Gurdwara as a place of worship and community, and how the Guru Granth Sahib guides Sikhs through its teachings. The children will also look at key Sikh celebrations, such as Vaisakhi, and why these festivals are meaningful. Finally, the children will explore what everyday life looks like for Sikhs, including the values of equality, service, and kindness that shape how they live.

## Design Technology (DT)

During this half term term, we will be linking our DT work to the story of Paddington Bear. Working with a view towards sustainability, the children will be researching existing packaging to analyse features such as ingredients, nutritional information, appearance etc. The children will have to follow a design brief and use their research in order to create an eco-friendly packet for Paddington's marmalade sandwiches!

## French

The children's work during this term is based on the theme of personal descriptions. Activities will include singing action songs, drawing and labelling pictures of people and monsters and developing their dictionary skills. The children will read some French stories together on this theme and then have the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding by creating their own descriptions, pictures and story books.

## Music

In Music, children will be learning to play the djembe. The children will focus on the techniques used to play different tones and play rhythm patterns in an ensemble. The children will also learn about other traditional African instruments.

## Games / P.E

This term, the children will build on skills in a range of Athletic sports. They will also continue to develop their abilities in field and striker games like rounders and cricket, as well as consolidating skills in tennis. A reminder that children need to be in PE kit on a **Monday** and a **Tuesday** until the end of the school year due to a timetable change.

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



## BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

### 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). This is the last term before the MTC check so the more practise the children get the more confident they will feel.

**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.

### Things to Remember

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

**PE Kit** – Children are required to come to school in their PE kit on their PE days (Monday and Tuesday). Please ensure that all PE kit is labelled with your child's name (this helps us to ensure it gets back to them when it is lost).

**Uniform** –Please ensure that all uniform is labelled with your child's name (this helps us to ensure it gets back to them when it is lost).

- [www.ttrockstars.com](http://www.ttrockstars.com)—for times tables
  - [www.edshed.com](http://www.edshed.com)—for spelling practise through games
- Your child has logins for both of these websites.  
Logins are stuck into their personal spelling books.

### Important Dates

- 16<sup>th</sup> April – Music Roadshow Show
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> April – Aylmerton Trip
- 4<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday
- 21<sup>st</sup> May – Matilda Performances
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May – End of Term

### 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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