

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome back, we hope you have all had a restful break. Our main topic for the 1st 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. The second half term topic is 'Water'. We will be looking at water usage, water treatment and pollution. We are looking forward to a 'Water' themed day in June.

Subject Overviews

English

During the 1st half term we will be looking at the UK in our Geography lessons and again, take a cross-curricular approach to our writing. We will take the opportunity to develop our narrative skills again, narratives based on the story of Paddington Bear. We will then base our writing on the picture book 'Float' and create a non-fiction piece 'The Creature'!

During the 2nd half term we will be linking our English work closely to our Rivers topic. We will be writing a narrative based on 'The Snail and the Whale' and use our knowledge of water to write an explanation text on the water cycle. We will then turn our focus to famous 'Matilda' and perform poetry based on our reading.

Maths

As per last term, the children will have a dedicated calculation lesson each week where we will be practicing our written methods. Following that, we will look at a range of topic areas including time, fractions, data handling and Roman numerals. We will also spend some time focusing on our mental maths methods.

Science

During the whole of the summer term, we will be looking at Electricity. Children will be learning about appliances that run on electricity, investigate circuits and the function of a switch and investigate the roles of insulators. This term the children build on their understanding by designing and creating an electrical circuit game. They consider how electricity has changed our lives as well as reflecting upon the impact this has had.

Geography

In the 1st half term, our geography work will be focusing on developing the children's understanding of the UK—looking at its location in the world, major cities and geographical features. During the 2nd half term, we will be looking at Rivers. The children develop their geographical understanding by locating rivers all over the world and then develop their knowledge of the main parts of a river system. They use fieldwork to observe and measure the physical geography of the local area and then write up their findings.

Be proud
of who
you are

Homework

Spellings

The children will still receive new spellings on a Tuesday which will be stuck in their log books. They will be tested the following Tuesday.

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 merits.

Maths

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

DT

In the 1st half term, we will be linking our DT work to the story of Paddington Bear. Working from an 'eco' point of view, the children will be researching packaging and then designing and creating an eco-friendly packet for Paddington's marmalade sandwiches! After half term, the children will be looking at the science behind floating. The children will develop their design to solve a problem and will generate, develop, model and communicate ideas through discussion, annotated sketches and cross sections. Linking to their work in Science, the children will use electrical systems in their boats to produce a motor powered airboat.

RE

The children will look at how Hindus use their teachings to support their daily lives including life cycles and marriage. They will explore and discuss a range of Hindu festivals and the importance of these.

P.S.H.E

The children will learn about the importance and benefit of a healthy diet. They will learn about how they can find out this information to choose a healthy diet as well as learning about good dental hygiene. To complete the year, the children will review learning from the three topics reflect upon what the children remember and think is important for others to know by presenting this information.

Computing: In the 1st half term, the children use this software to organise, design and present information. After half term, we will look at Scratch. This unit builds upon the children's previous knowledge of sequencing, selection and repetition in programs as well as working with variables.

French

Our work in the summer 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 our dictionary skills. We will read some French stories together on this theme and children will then have the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding by creating their own descriptions, pictures and story books.

Music

This term, we will be learning to play tuned percussion focusing on xylophones, metallophones and glockenspiels. Children will learn how the notes are arranged and start to play some short musical phrases using call and response. We will also learn about musical phrasing and the importance of a 'musical full

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.