



Spring Term – Year 4

This term in Year 4 we will be learning...

English

In Literacy, we will be looking at and writing a range of genres, including letter writing, persuasive writing, narrative poetry, information texts and stories with dilemmas. Our learning will be focused around more beautiful story books; starting 'Winter's Child' and then 'Cinnamon'. We will be practising joined up handwriting, and concentrating on neat and clear presentation. We will be supporting children in their learning of extending their sentences independently, using key language techniques (e.g. adjectives, similes, time adverbials, main and subordinate clauses and a range of punctuation) to ensure their writing is fluent and interesting. Spellings of common words will be practised frequently, as well as learning spellings at home each week. These will be posted on Dojos weekly, and the children will be tested on Fridays. Spelling Shed is a great tool to help your child learn their spellings through games, look out for the assignment titles, as given on Dojos with the spellings.

Reading

The Firework Maker's Daughter by Phillip Pullman

The children will begin by investigating vocabulary and the effect it has in particular contexts, as well as making inferences about characters' actions and motives.

Tamarind and the Star of Ishta by Jaspinder Bilan

Children will begin by considering the setting for the story and exploring the similarities and differences between the UK and India as presented in the text. Throughout, there will be plentiful opportunities for children to answer retrieval and inference questions presented in different formats, as well as defining new vocabulary in context, predicting, sequencing and summarising.

Maths

In Mathematics, we will be beginning the new year by continuing our focus on multiplication and division, extending our knowledge further to look at problems involving multiplying/dividing by $\frac{3}{4}$ digit numbers. We will also work on length, perimeter, time and fractions (introduction of mixed numbers and improper fractions). The children will be introduced to decimal numbers; this will involve exploring tenths and hundredths. Learning our times tables continues to be a big focus, which will support the children's Mathematical skills. Any support at home to learn them quicker will be really beneficial to your child. There are lots of times tables songs on YouTube which are a great help. TT Rockstars is also a great way to encourage and challenge your child with their learning of times tables, as well as using a MTC app. There will be a meeting for parents to attend with regards to the Multiplication Times Tables Check, which will be in June.

Geography - Misty Mountain, Winding River

This project teaches children about the characteristics and features of rivers and mountain ranges around the world, including a detailed exploration of the ecosystems and processes that shape them and the land around them. This topic encourages children to use and enhance their geographical skills, such as:

- Using maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features.
- Using the eight points of a compass.
- Using four and six-figure grid references and keys to describe locations on a map.
- Conduct case studies on specific river and mountain ranges.
- Understand geographical similarities and differences through study of human and physical geography.
- Investigating and comparing aspects of physical geography such as the water cycle, soil, habitats, changing environments, climate zones and biomes.

Science

Switched On:

Focus on electricity, including circuits, conductors and insulators.

Human impact on the environment

PSHE

Dreams and Goals:

Focus on how to achieve goals and how to overcome disappointment.

Healthy Me:

Focus on friendship groups, healthy lifestyles (including the effects of smoking and alcohol).

French

Presenting myself

My Family

RE

Vaisakhi:

Focus on Sikh celebration.

Holy Week & Easter:

Focus on Christianity celebration.

Things to remember/ Important dates

- Spellings will go out every Friday.
- PE will be on Wednesday and Thursday. Please ensure children have the full kit on these days or kept in school.

Computing

We will be using Scratch block-coding to create repetition in shapes, then we will move on to looking at collecting data to ask and answer questions.

PE

Step to the Beat (Wednesday):

Focus on fitness routines.

Gymfit circuits

(Thursday)

Art & Design

Animal:

Focus on the historical and cultural portrayal of animals in art.

Vista:

Focus on techniques that artists use when composing landscape images.

Music

Developing pulse and groove:

Focus on how music improves our world.

Creating simple melodies:

Focus on how music teaches us about our community.

How can you help at home?

- Practice times tables at home.
- Practise spellings each week and go over common errors
- Encourage your child to read to you/with you every day.