Autumn term curriculum newsletter Year 4

English

This term in English, the children will explore a range of writing genres, including realistic fiction, suspense stories, newspaper reports and performance poetry. They will learn how to engage their readers through carefully chosen vocabulary and develop their confidence in writing for different purposes.

We will build on the grammar skills taught in Year 3, with a particular focus on punctuating direct speech, using expanded noun phrases to add detail, fronted adverbials to vary sentence openings, and conjunctions to connect ideas. The children will practise applying these skills when planning, writing and editing their own work.

In reading, the children will develop their comprehension skills through a range of questions focusing on retrieval, inference and vocabulary. They will practise finding information in a text, using clues to explain their understanding, and exploring the meanings of words in context.

Maths

This term in Maths, the children will develop their understanding of place value, addition and subtraction, area, and multiplication and division. They will apply their learning through reasoning and problem-solving activities.

A key priority throughout Year 4 is developing quick and accurate recall of all times tables up to 12 × 12 in preparation for the statutory Multiplication Tables Check in June. Regular practice in school and at home will be essential in helping the children build confidence and fluency. Please support your child by practising their times tables little and often, helping them to recall facts in any order.

Key information

We will be visiting a local woodland for our Geography trip to explore how people use the area. The children will practise collecting data by asking questions, sketching and recording their observations.

Science

This term in Science, the children will explore biology and chemistry through our topics on living things and states of matter. They will learn to group and classify living things according to their characteristics, and collect and present data to support their findings. They will also investigate the properties of solids, liquids and gases, exploring how materials change state when heated or cooled.

History and Geography

This term in History, the children will explore the question, 'How have children's lives changed?' They will investigate work, health and leisure in the past, comparing these experiences with their own lives today. Through examining historical sources, they will identify similarities and differences and develop their understanding of how childhood has changed over time.

This term in Geography, the children will explore the question, 'Why are rainforests important to us?' They will locate the Amazon rainforest and investigate its climate, physical features and vegetation.

Art and D.T.

This term in Art, the children will explore tone, texture and proportion to create realistic and expressive drawings. Taking inspiration from artists Sarah Graham, Nicola McBride and Beatriz Milhazes. This term in Art, the children will explore tone, texture and proportion to create realistic and expressive drawings. Taking inspiration from artists Sarah Graham, Nicola McBride and Beatriz Milhazes. This term in Design and Technology, the children will apply their scientific understanding of electrical circuits to design and make a working torch using recycled and reclaimed materials.

Computing and Music

This term in Computing, the children will explore how the internet connects us, learn to search effectively and assess information online, and use software to create and present their work. They will also learn to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly, including how to report concerns.

This term in Music, the children will learn to play the pBone with a visiting music teacher. They will develop their understanding of rhythm and pitch, practise breathing and playing techniques, and build confidence in making music together.

P.E.

This term in PE, the children will develop their netball skills, including passing, catching, footwork and shooting. Through games and activities, they will learn how to find space, work as a team and apply simple attacking and defending tactics. Our P.E. day is Monday. Please ensure children have removed earrings for this.

R.E., R.S.H.E. and M.F.L.

This term in R.E., the children will explore Jesus' baptism, the symbolism of water and how Christians express belief in the Trinity through baptism, worship and prayer.

This term in R.S.H.E, the children will learn how exercise, a balanced diet and hydration support physical and mental wellbeing.

This term in M.F.L., the children will describe personality, hair and eye colour, learning to use adjectives correctly in spoken and written sentences.