

Year 4 Curriculum Spring Term 2020

We will follow the requirements of the National Curriculum, whilst using a range of different learning topics and approaches to support children in achieving the desired outcomes. There will be an on-going emphasis on presentation skills and the use of cursive script.

English

Our written work will link closely to our topic on Rainforests and our class texts; Scribbleboy and Journey to River Sea.

Adventure Story Writing

During this unit of work we will explore what makes a good adventure story. We will discuss features such as heroes and villains, journeys the characters find themselves on, plots, settings and overall story structure. All while continuing to improve our descriptive language and linking our GPS targets to our story writing, such as the use of inverted commas and fronted adverbials.

Persuasive Writing

Based on our Topic work on the Rainforest, we will be learning to use powerful vocabulary to persuade an audience that read our texts, one way or another. We will save the Rainforest with our writing through;

- Speaking competently and creatively for different purposes and audiences.
- Researching facts to include in our persuasions.
- Returning to our texts to up-level them and ensure they are as good as they can be.
- Using a variety of sources (such as the internet and non-fiction books).
- Regularly using dictionaries and thesauruses.

Throughout both terms, we will also work on:

- Speaking competently and creatively for different purposes and audiences.
- Conveying detailed information coherently for listeners.
- Using dictionaries and thesauruses routinely, including sorting by alphabetical order to third and fourth place letters.
- Developing editing skills in texts.
- Note taking, turning notes into prose and vice versa.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling:

Learning grammar, punctuation and spelling skills will be integrated into our English lessons. We will also be covering the use of fronted adverbials, correct noun use, when to place inverted commas and learning about different homophones. We will also be looking into possessive apostrophes and how we apply these when working with irregular plurals. Learning age appropriate spellings will be supplemented by weekly spellings tests and discrete sessions on spelling rules. Spellings will be practised as part of our handwriting lessons. A list of common exception words can be found in the back of our white diaries.

Maths

We will use the 'Maths No Problem' scheme of work. Not all children will cover everything outlined below as work will be tailored to their individual needs. Our Spring Term work will focus on multiplication & division and fractions (including decimals & percentages):

Multiplication and Division:

- TIMES TABLES: Up to 12x12. This work will help us with our weekly Times Table Challenge.

- Use place value, known and derived facts to \times/\div mentally, including multiplying by 0 & 1, dividing by 1, multiplying 3 numbers together e.g. $2 \times 3 = 6$ so $600 \div 3 = 200$
- Recognise and use factor pairs and commutativity in mental calculations.
e.g. $39 \times 7 = (30 \times 7) + (9 \times 7)$ e.g. $2 \times 3 \times 4 = (2 \times 4) \times 3$ and $2 \times (3 \times 4)$
- Multiply 2-digit and 3-digit numbers by a 1-digit number using formal written layout.
- Solve problems involving multiplying and adding including using the distributive law to multiply 2-digit numbers by 1-digit.
- Solve problems of integer, scaling and correspondence i.e. n objects are connected to m objects.
e.g. number of meal choices on a menu e.g. 3 cakes shared between 10 children.

Fractions, Decimals & Percentages:

- Count up and down in hundredths.
- Recognise that hundredths arise from dividing an object into one hundred equal parts, dividing by one hundred and dividing tenths by ten.
- Recognise and show families of common equivalent fractions.
- Simplify simple fractions e.g. $2/8 = 1/4$
- Solve problems involving increasingly harder fractions to calculate quantities, fractions to divide quantities, including non-unit fractions where the answer is a whole number.
- Addition/Subtraction fractions with the same denominator including beyond 1.
- Recognise and write decimal equivalents of any number of tenths or hundredths and $1/4$, $1/2$ and $3/4$.
- Find the effect of \div a 1- or 2-digit number by 10 or 100, identifying the value of the digits in the answer as ones, tenths and hundredths.
- Round decimals with 1d.p to the nearest whole number.
- Compare numbers with the same number of decimal places up to 2d.p.
- Solve simple measure and money problems involving fractions and decimals to 2d.p.

This year is the introduction of the new curriculum which is a knowledge - based curriculum linking more subjects into topics and getting greater coverage of each subject. The curriculum is based on the 3 I's – Intent, Implementation and Impact.

Saving the world: Rainforests – Spring 1 and 2

Rainforests once covered 20% of our world's surface. Now they cover only 5%. Every second, an area of the rainforest the size of a football field is being destroyed. Some scientists believe that, if we lose our rainforests, we might put our whole planet at risk. What will we do to help save the rainforest?

During this unit we will be focusing on Geography, Art and Technology

In Geography, we'll be finding out:

- About where rainforests are in the world
- Which rainforest products are used by us in our everyday lives
- About the lives of rainforest people and how they compare with our own
- How and why the rainforest is being destroyed?
- Discovering the ways that people are trying to save the rainforest
- About the different animals in the rainforest and how they can be classified.
- About the weather in the rainforests across the world.

In Art, we'll be finding out:

- About rainforest body art and painting our faces in a similar style
- About how the animals adapt and are suited to living in the rainforest and using clay to make our own.

In Technology, we'll be finding out:

- How to design and make a shelter in the rainforest.

Science

States of matter – Spring 1

In Science we'll be finding out:

- How to carry out simple investigations.
- How to compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases.
- When and how to observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius (°C).
- We will also look at how to identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.

Sound – Spring 2

In Science we'll be finding out:

- Different sound sources and the sounds that they make.
- Recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear. How we hear sounds.
- How to carry out simple investigations involving exploring materials to use for sound proofing.

Computing

We will be using a Curriculum which aims to broaden the children's skills in line with the modern world of technology. In the first half term we will be learning skills in PowerPoint and linking this to our topic by making a presentation using skills learnt in Computing lessons.

During the second part of the term we will study a topic called: We are meteorologists. This topic brings together data measurement, analysis and presentation, as the children take on the role of meteorologists and weather presenters.

Religious Education (RE)

For the majority of our RE lessons, we will be making preparations for our Easter performance. This will be a retelling of the Easter story including the Last Supper told through music and drama. We will also explore milestones and meanings with a focus on how a Bar/Bat Mitzvah impact on the life of a Jewish child and their family.

PSHE – “Dreams and Goals” and “Healthy me”

In our first term we will be looking at our Dreams and goals. We will discuss different jobs, the idea of dream jobs and how jobs help in everyday life. We will also develop an understanding of jobs around the world and find out why different countries have different job aspirations.

In our second term we will focus on 'Healthy me'. We will discuss how choices in what we do and eat can affect our bodies both in positive and negative ways.

Physical Education (PE)

Children will develop their physical skills through indoor and outdoor activities. We will be swimming every Monday morning this term for 10 sessions. Please make sure kit is in school (including hats, which can be purchased from the school office).

During our indoor lessons we will be learning all about basketball and the skills it involves. We will then be competing against each other to put these skills to the test. To build on our own leadership skills within PE, we will have opportunities to teach skills to younger pupils in the school.

French

In Year 4 the children will continue to improve upon their knowledge of French culture and will extend their vocabulary in their weekly lessons. Their lessons will be linked to their topic work as often as possible.

Music

Our weekly music session will give children the opportunity to use a variety of instruments and their voices. They will also get the opportunity to sing once a fortnight during our choir sessions. These sessions will be linked to our topics as often as possible.

Any items you have at home to support or enrich our work would be welcome. Please feel free to talk to us about any way you think you could support us. We look forward to an exciting term of fun and learning.