



Year 4 Curriculum Leaflet

Autumn 1:

'Where in the World?'



English

Reading

Aim: To add expression to their reading.

For this half term, the children will be building on the inference skills taught last year to read and comprehend a range of texts. Each week, the children will be given a chance to read and analyse a short text, looking at vocabulary and expression. As a class, we will be reading either 'Peanut Jones' or 'Alice in Wonderland', giving each child the opportunity to follow the text as we read out loud to them.

At home, you can help by asking your child to tell you the two or three most important things that have happened in the section of their reading book. Has something happened? Has a new character been introduced? Has the setting changed?

Writing

Aim: To produce an individual creative narrative based upon a fictional civilisation.

Our work will be based on the story 'Weslandia' by Paul Fleischman. The children will develop their grammar skills; using fronted adverbials and noun phrases. They will use this knowledge to create their own descriptive non-chronological report about a fictional land of the children's creation. We will then move on to look at 'The Journey' which tells a story without words, giving the children the opportunity to write the text.

At home, you can ask your child to describe everyday objects around the home using noun phrases. How interesting can they make the object sound? For example - the metallic, vicious cheese grater.

Maths

Aim: To understand place value up to 10,000 and to use formal methods of calculation.

Over this half term, the children will further develop their understanding of place value and partitioning of increasingly larger numbers. They will then use these skills to add and subtract up to 4-digit numbers using efficient methods such as column addition. Roman numerals will also be taught. Children will still be completing the times tables challenge on a weekly basis, starting on the level achieved in year 3. It is especially important to help your child/ren learn their tables at home, as they will be tested in June 2024 as part of the new Multiplication Tables Check set by the government.

At home, please practise your child's times tables as often as possible, preferably daily using the Times Tables Rockstars app.

Geography

Aim: To answer the question - Which is the easiest biome to live in?

Year 4 will be learning about four of the major world biomes, throughout this autumn term. We will study world maps to locate the various climate zones, continents and oceans, before focussing on rainforest and temperate forest biomes. We will then explore the desert and alpine tundra biomes. Children will then use their knowledge gained throughout the term to study animal and human adaptations required to survive in each of the four biomes researched, to answer to question 'Which is the easiest biome to live in?' Research will include studying maps and watching video clips to give children a flavour of the similarities and differences of life in different biomes.

At home, the children could research animal adaptations for rainforests, temperate forests, tundra and deserts. What are the key adaptations?

Science

Aim: To know that keys can help us identify the names of unknown animals and plants.

In Science, children will learn about animals and how they have adapted to their environment. This will involve looking at various food chains including producers and which animals are primary and secondary consumers. The children will learn that all living things use food as a source of energy in order to survive and grow. Children will have opportunities to generate their own food chains and assess each other's knowledge as a result.

At home, discuss the characteristics of some different animals observed (either outside or on Nature programmes) and ask whether they are mammals, reptiles, birds, amphibians, fish or invertebrates and how do they know?

R.E.

Aim: To understand the concept of temptation and forgiveness.

Children will be exploring the concept of 'Creation'. The children will learn that the Bible tells a story (in Genesis 3) about how humans spoiled their friendship with God (sometimes called 'the Fall'). This means that humans cannot get close to God without God's help. The Bible shows that God *wants* to help people to be close to him— he keeps his relationship with them, gives them guidelines on good ways to live (such as the Ten Commandments), and offers forgiveness even when they keep on falling short.

At home, have a teatime discussion about times we may have been tempted to do something wrong and how we dealt with it. How did it feel? Why is it important to say sorry?

French

Aim: To learn the basic French vocabulary for different habitats

This topic links closely to our Science unit and Geography work about Biomes. The children will learn the requirements of a habitat in French and relate this to our science work. They will then learn names of each habitat, examples of where they are in the world and examples of animals, flora and fauna found in each one.

At home, practise some greetings in French and see if your child can tell you a new word that they have learnt that week.

P.E.

Dance and netball.

Aim: To learn expression in movement and observational skills.

For indoor P.E , we will use our dance skills to choreograph a dance related to a Winter Olympic theme tune.

For outdoor PE, we will be teaching children netball. Please can you ensure that your child has a warm top and long trousers to wear over their PE kit in case the weather is cold. Spare socks are also useful in case feet get wet.

At home, practise some of the skills you have learnt this term.

PSHE

Aim: To set our class charter for the year ahead.

In PSHE this term, the children in both Year 4 classes will create their class charters. These charters will be in place all year and the children will agree to follow each of the targets. Following on from this, the children will study the unit of work called 'Being in my world.' They will identify that they are part of a school community and think about rights, responsibilities and democracies, as well as rewards and consequences.

At home, you could discuss the charter that we are following.

D.T.

Aim: To measure and cut wood to create a purposeful photo frame

We will be looking at different types of photo frames and discussing how they are similar and different. Children will then have a go at designing their own purposeful frame, which is sturdy and aesthetically pleasing.

At home or when out and about, you could also take a closer look at the different photo/art frames – what makes them special? How are they constructed? Which is your favourite?

Art

Aim: To show an understanding of shape and space.

We will be studying the work of Henri Rousseau and his pictures that depict Rainforests. We will be focusing on our drawing and painting skills, in particular, shape and colour. The children will practise each skill as the topic progresses, building up to producing their own painting in the style of Rousseau.

At home, the children can research the artist and/or find another example of some Rainforest art to show to the class.

Computing

Aim: To learn how to code a simple repeating pattern.

We will be creating programs by planning, modifying and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. We will also be recapping the importance of online safety, although the internet is a fantastic resource it can also have many dangers including false identities.

At home, keep reminding your child about online safety.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf2f9j6/articles/z3c6tfr>

Music

Aim: To learn to play a simple tune on a recorder.

Children will have the opportunity to play the recorder. They will begin to understand 2 and 4 metre and how rhythms fit to a steady beat. They will understand getting faster and slower in finer gradations and identify melodic shape and explore different scale patterns including pentatonic, major and minor.

We look forward to working with you and your child throughout the coming year.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's class teacher.

Mrs Langfeld, Mrs Kaschula and Mrs Woodward

