



Year 4 Curriculum Leaflet

Autumn 2:

Significance of Whitchurch

English

Reading

Aim: To understand how to apply reading strategies to a range of genres.

For this half term, the children will be developing their reading strategies and learning to apply them to a range of genres, including fiction, non-fiction and poetry.

At home, you can help by discussing a range of texts with your child. Ask 'What do you know about the text? How do you know? What VIP words can you identify? Important vocabulary to use includes **genre** meaning different types of writing such as science fiction, adventure etc.

Writing

Aim: To produce a fantasy sequel to a story and newspaper accounts based on a real life historical event.

We will start this half term by using the book *Winter's Child* by Angela McAllister. The premise of this fantasy story is "be careful what you wish for". The children will use predictions, identify themes and use direct speech punctuation as well as continue to work on effective and precise vocabulary - all developed through the story. As an end product, the children will use these practised skills to produce their own fantasy narrative to sequel this story.

In contrast, our second focus in writing uses the account of the real-life expedition by Shackleton to Antarctica called *Shackleton's Journey* by William Grill. Through this evocative retelling the children explore the themes of courage and resilience. Children will use sequencing and summarising skills as well as develop their knowledge and use of a non-fiction newspaper report. This will involve sentence structure, speech and the use of writing structured in paragraphs.

At home, use the ISPACE poster on Google classroom to practise creating sentences starting with verbs, prepositions and adverbs. Important vocabulary to discuss includes **fantasy** and **courage**.

Maths

Aim: To use their knowledge of equal groups to solve multiplication and division problems.

We will begin by looking at the area of rectilinear shapes for 1 week and for the rest of the term we will be concentrating on multiplication and division. We will be focusing on multiplying and dividing using our Times Table knowledge. Times tables are a priority for Year 4, as there will be a National Test for all Year 4 pupils in June 2026. They will need to answer 25 questions in a set amount of time. In addition, knowing all of their Times Tables enables the children to access the Year 5 Maths curriculum successfully. Following this link will give you an example of how the assessment is carried out and will enable your child to practise entering their answers online. The settings will enable you to change the speed so that you can start slowly and reduce time as children progress. The time given in the actual assessment is 6 seconds per question.

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>

At home, please keep practising your child's Times Tables as often as possible, preferably daily. Using a mix of the times tables level challenge your child is on and the random online speed challenge link above. Please do also use TT Rockstars. Children will be given out certificates each week to encourage

History

Aim: To study how several aspects of national history are located in the locality.

This half term, the children will be engaging in a local history project. Building on their Year 3 Geography knowledge of our local town, they will explore the Whitchurch Town logo and learn about notable individuals who have lived in or near Whitchurch, such as Lord Denning and Richard Adams. They will also reflect on our visit to the Silk Mill and consider its role in bringing Whitchurch into the Industrial Revolution.

At home, encourage your child to take a walk around the local area. What monuments can they spot? Are there any street names with historical significance? If they discover something interesting or have questions about local history, we'd love for them to share it with the class.

Science

Aim: To create, undertake and record a scientific enquiry based on plants, pollination, seed dispersal and plant growth.

In science, children will learn about the parts of a plant, pollination and seed dispersal. They will learn about how plants reproduce and germinate through seed dispersal. Children will have opportunities to work practically and make decisions about plants and seeds by examining their results from enquiries.

At home, discuss different types of plants and seeds. Children could plant something to watch grow, help in the garden or make note of the different things they see growing on a local walk.

R.E.

Aim: To understand the Christian concept of Trinity and Jesus as God Incarnate.

Children will be learning about the Christian concept of the Trinity and of Jesus as God on Earth. They will do this by looking at the Gospel accounts of Jesus's birth. They will also investigate the image of Jesus as the light of the world and how Christians use that today at Christmas and throughout the year. Children create visual representations of these ideas and respond to a very contentious notice about Christmas from HCC!

At home, have a tea time discussion about stories where good is represented by light and evil by darkness. Perhaps there are films the children know too. Important vocabulary to use includes **concept** meaning idea and **trinity** being a collection of 3. Can the children identify other words with tri meaning 3 as a prefix?

French

Aim: To learn some basic French greeting phrases.

This unit teaches the children some basic French conversation phrases, including 'How old are you?' and covers numbers to twenty.

At home, practise numbers vocabulary by singing the song on the following link
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UsEz58BblMY&list=PLyPMwXsfo2PGiL90Vw-7XPIggyVgcwTO>

P.E.

Indoor Athletics and Netball

Aim: To learn the key skills of positioning and passing.

Tuesday PE lessons will be held outside all term so please can you ensure that your child has a warm top and long trousers/leggings to wear with their PE kit. Spare socks are also useful in case feet get wet.

The children will be enjoying sessions learning netball skills. For indoor P.E. (Pumas – Monday/ Tigers – Friday) the children will be honing their athletic skills through indoor games.

At home, get out and about and practise some of the skills you have learnt this term.

PSHE

Aim: To build positive relationships with each other and ourselves.

In PSHE this term, we will be looking at what makes us unique and celebrating it by understanding that we are all different – it doesn't matter what we look like as we are all special just the way we are.

At home, you could discuss what children believe to be their strengths and what makes them unique. Important vocabulary to discuss includes unique.

Art

Aim: To design, refine and alter ideas using collage from specific material and tools in the style of Matisse

In Art this half term we will be looking at the later work of Henri Matisse. We will be looking at his use of freeform collage work and his use of scissors to "paint". Children will look at and evaluate what they like about his work and style. They will create and revise their own collage work using scissors and coloured paper to create their own piece in the style of Matisse.

At home, if you get the opportunity, you could enjoy making collages using different types of paper while practising cutting skills. You could challenge your children to rearrange their pieces in different ways- it does not need to create a recognisable object or scene- and choose their favourite before gluing. A word to use in discussion could be combine. Can the children use the words in different contexts?

Computing

Aims: To program repetition in a game.

Children will use what they have learnt in the previous half term to use repetition to make a game using Scratch. We will also continue to look at online safety, thinking about who to report concerns to if they experience anything online that makes them feel uncomfortable.

At home, you can talk to the children about what they have learnt.

Music

Aim: To read simple music notation in order to play simple tunes.

This term the children will continue to develop their skills on the recorder.

At home, encourage your children to listen to a range of musical genres. Which music do they like best? What is it about it that they like? Encourage discussion about the music they are listening to.



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

Mrs Kaschula, Mrs Woodward and Mrs Langfeld