

YEAR 4 - Curriculum Newsletter Spring 1 – 2023-24

Dear Parents / Carers,

Please find below the units that your child will be learning this half term.

Writing

This term Writing and Geography has been combined to create a cross curricular link. Text types: explanation texts & non-chronological reports. (The water cycle & The journey of the River.

Grammar focus: As well as using capital letters and full stops to punctuate a sentence, children will also be introduced to a range of other punctuation in order to up level their writing.

Reading

Focus texts: King of the Cloud Forest by Michael Morpurgo. (historical mountain setting based on WW2) and Wind in The Willows by Kenneth Grahame (historical river setting in Edwardian England). A few of the skills the children will be exposed to this term are:

- Sequencing and summarising events
- Inferring
- Comparing and contrasting
- Understanding meaning of words

Science

States of matter

- Comparing and grouping materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids and gases.
- 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)
- To identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle

MFL – Arabic

MY SCHOOL:

Pupils will continue the topic 'My School' where they will use Arabic dictionaries to look for unfamiliar words related to the topic. They will learn the names of different school items and subjects as well as areas around the school. Pupils will learn how to ask a partner to lend different school objects whilst also talking about the subjects and areas they like.

Mathematics

Length & Perimeter

- convert between different units of measure [for example, kilometre to metre; hour to minute]
- measure and calculate the perimeter of a rectilinear figure (including squares) in centimetres and metres
- find the area of rectilinear shapes by counting squares

Fractions including Decimals

- recognise and show, using diagrams, families of common equivalent fractions
- count up and down in hundredths; recognise that hundredths arise when dividing an object by 100 and dividing tenths by 10
- solve problems involving increasingly harder fractions to calculate quantities, and fractions to divide quantities, including non-unit fractions where the answer is a whole number
- add and subtract fractions with the same denominator
- recognise and write decimal equivalents of any number of tenths or hundreds
- recognise and write decimal equivalents to $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$
- find the effect of dividing a one- or two-digit number by 10 and 100, identifying the value of the digits in the answer as ones, tenths and hundredths
- round decimals with 1 decimal place to the nearest whole number
- compare numbers with the same number of decimal places up to 2 decimal places
- solve simple measure and money problems involving fractions and decimals to 2 decimal places

Music

In this unit of work children will use musical water instruments (which they will create), body percussion and voice to compose a piece that represents a river's journey from its source to its mouth. They will begin by watching the journey of a river and marking off key points, recognising sounds they hear. They will then create their own water instruments using glass bottles, varying levels of water and a beater. Working in groups, they will develop composition of a rivers journey. They will combine known rhythmic notation with letter names to create short pentatonic phrases using a limited range of 5 pitches suitable for the instruments and play these phrases as self-standing compositions.

R.E

Key Beliefs: In Year Four, we will answer the question "Do rites of Passage always help a believer to feel connected to the community?" Continuing our learning in Sikhism, we will learn about the life of Guru Nanak and the significance of the Gurdwara.

PE

Focus this Term – Dodgeball – Invasion game
Dodgeball is a target game. In this unit pupils will improve on key skills used in dodgeball such as throwing, dodging and catching. They learn how to apply simple tactics to outwit their opponents. In dodgeball, pupils achieve this by hitting opponents with a ball whilst avoiding being hit. Pupils are given opportunities to play games independently and are taught the importance of being honest whilst playing to the rules. This unit links to the following strands of the NC: use running, jumping, throwing and catching in isolation and in combination. Play competitive games, modified where appropriate and apply basic principles suitable for attacking and defending.

PSHE Safety First

In PSHE lessons, children will be learning about:

- New responsibilities
- Risks, Hazards and Dangers
- Under Pressure
- Road Safety
- Dangerous substances
- Stay Safe online

Art/DT

Composing landscapes

Students will research the work of Claude Monet.
We will be focusing on techniques that artists use when composing landscape images, such as colour and atmosphere.
NC Objectives:
I can mix colour, shades and tones with increasing confidence.
I can work in the style of a selected artist.
I can create textures and patterns.
I can use compliment and contrasting colours for effect.
I can identify modifications/ changes and see how they can be developed further.

Computing

Creating media- Audio editing

In this unit, pupils will initially examine devices capable of recording digital audio, which will include identifying the input device (microphone) and output devices (speaker or headphones) if available. Learners will discuss the ownership of digital audio and the copyright implications of duplicating the work of others. In order to record audio themselves, learners will use Audacity to produce a podcast, which will include editing their work, adding multiple tracks, and opening and saving the audio files. Finally, learners will evaluate their work and give feedback to their peers.

Additional Information

PE:

All pupils in year 4 should come into school in their PE kit on **Wednesday and Thursday**. All children should have the school PE kit as this is part of their uniform. This **must** include trainers or plimsolls. Children are not allowed to do PE in their school shoes. This term, boys will attend swimming as their second PE lesson, however the boys will have their PE lessons on Thursday.

Homework (On TEAMS):

- Homework will be set out on a **Thursday** for it to be completed by the following **Tuesday**.
- Children should find their homework on Teams **under 'assignments'**.
- Reading comprehension and grammar homework will also be set to all pupils to complete on a weekly basis.
- There is a list of Common Exception Words in the children's Reading log records – you will find these in the middle pages along with other grammar terminologies.

Reading:

Your child will bring a reading book home every night and should read for at least 10 minutes per day. This is vital for their writing skills. It is their responsibility to ensure they have a reading book.

We hope this information is useful to you.

The Year 4 team,

Miss Ajaib, Mrs Usman and Mrs Bilal