

**History & Geography**

This term is jam packed with History. We are starting off by learning about Anglo Saxon and Scots Settlements. During this topic, the children will have many opportunities to present their findings about the past using speaking, writing, maths (data handling), ICT, drama and drawing skills. The children will learn to do this using accurate dates and the correct topic related vocabulary.

In Geography, we will be learning essential facts about rivers. We will also be taking a trip down to the River Mersey to deepen their understanding of key features of rivers, including knowledge of transporting and depositing materials.

Y4 Topic Map: Autumn

**P.E**

The focus for this term will be fitness to improve skills like agility, speed and strength to enable to work effectively together.

Please ensure that your child has a school kit, as PE is an integral part of the Curriculum. This year, our PE is on a Wednesday morning. Children are to come to school wearing their PE kit on Wednesdays, and remain in it all day.

Swimming for Year 4 will begin on a Tuesday morning. Please remember to bring your swimming kits on these days – including a swimming hat.

**Music**

Year 4 are extremely lucky to be having ukulele lessons this year! Music lessons will be delivered every Wednesday morning. The children will be learning, playing, composing and performing music throughout the year.

**Skills**

Pupils will be taught to play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy and fluency.

**Application of English across the curriculum** :Describing the mood of music.

**R.E**

**Family -**Through this topic, we will be learning how family is an integral part of our lives for all faith’s, and how Jesus had his own human family too. We will learn that Christian’s experience love within their own families, as well as within their Church family, and their communities.

**Called -** We will be exploring what it means to Christians to be chosen for God’s special purposes. In this topic, we will learn the importance of confirmation, and how we can ‘live in the light of Jesus’.

**Gift -** In this topic, we will focus on the gift of love, and how love can overcome all obstacles. We will discover the gift that was bestowed upon us at Christmas time, and celebrate the time of advent.

We also be delivering an assembly on Diwali, where we will impress you with our amazing knowledge of the Hindu faith. All parents and carers are welcome to come!

**Learning Visits**

Linking to our history topic, we are taking the children to The World Museum for an exciting workshop about the Anglo Saxons. They will have the opportunity to examine artefacts from that period.Later in the term, we will be taking a trip to the river Mersey to understand the key features of rivers.

**Class Novel**  - Kensuke’s Kingdom- Michael Morpurgo

This story follows Michael and his family as they embark on a daring adventure that eventually leads them to a remote island. Throughout this journey, the book explores themes of adventure and discovery as Michael navigates through new scenarios and faces unknown dangers on the island.

**ICT**

Our first Computing topic this term will be coding. In this topic, the children will design and write a program that accomplishes a specific goal. The children will also learn how to add commands into their code such as repeat, if and also.

Our second topic will be online safety. Here we will be looking at how to stay safe online in today’s modern world.

**PSHE**  The children have begun the new year by thinking about what they want their **future** to look like, the path they need to take to get their and obstacles that could face along the way. Later on in the term, we will have a whole school focus on **e-safety**, making sure the children remain safe on-line. We will also be doing a lot of work developing a strong sense of **self-respect and self worth.** Also,We will be keeping up with current affairs using Picture New during our weekly Oracy sessions

**Art & DT** **In Art**, we will be looking at formal elements of Art like drawing and print-making. Pupils will develop a range of mark-making techniques, make and use their own textured stamps for printing; draw a ‘flip’ pattern and recreate an ancient geometric pattern. **In DT,** the children will be designing and making a night light with our DT specialist, Steph O’Donnell. They will understand and use computing to program and control their lights by using electrical circuits.

**Things you can do with your child at home:**

Please continue to hear your child read regularly at home and sign their reading record, remember that you can record any type of reading in it not just their reading book (For example, iPad apps, magazines).

**Please ensure your child brings their book to school each day in order to change their books and take their quiz.** Ask them questions about what they have read: who was their favourite character? Can they predict what might happen in the next story? Your involvement in your child’s reading is important to their progress.

Encourage your child to write for a range of purposes: shopping lists, keep a diary, stories and comics.

Help your child to learn to read the time on both analogue and digital clock (Focus on 5 past and 5 to the hour and 10 past and 10 to the hour). Ensure that your child recognises the different coins and their values. Ask your child to show you the coins they need to buy an item and how much change they should receive from £1, £2, £5 & £10.

By the end of Year 4 all the children will know their times tables to 12x12 and the corresponding division facts. This is a lot of work and we have already started with gusto! Ask your child to put their fists up and show you the times tables chants.

Please support your child to complete their weekly homework, send out on Fridays.

**Mathematics**

We have already had a wonderful start to Year 4! The children’s arithmetic will continue to improve with the help of our weekly mental maths tests and out daily maths skills. This term we will be developing and consolidating our knowledge of number and place value as well as exploring the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will use picture representations and different apparatus to broaden our skills. We will be using Cuisenaire rods to find different approaches to reasoning, as well carrying out mathematical investigations.

Finally, we will apply all these skills to solving number problems and practical problems using the Bar Model.

During the week we will be learning our times tables chants (ask your children to demonstrate them for you) and each Thursday we will be doing the ’100 Club’ Challenge’.

**Science – States of Matter –** during this topic the children will compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases 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). They will identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature. **Electricity –** By the end of this topic, the children will be able to identify common appliances that run on electricity, construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers; identify whether or not a lamp will light in a simple series circuit, based on whether or not the lamp is part of a complete loop with a battery; recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit and associate this with whether or not a lamp lights in a simple series circuit and recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.

**English** This term we will be writing stories, poems, diary entries, letters, newspaper articles, biographies and recounts using a beautiful selection of books and the historical periods that we are researching. After doing plenty of role-playing and hot seating the children will plan, write and edit their work using a wide range of grammar and literary techniques. The children will be identifying the audience for and purpose of their writing.

Reading is a huge focus for us in Year 4. We will be spending plenty of time reading for pleasure while working hard to develop skills that will give children a deeper understanding of what they are reading and how to decipher new vocabulary.

Finally, we will be continuing with our weekly Oracy lessons. During these popular discussion based sessions, the children have the opportunity to share their view on current affairs and on different aspects of our curriculum. The children will be developing their ability to express themselves clearly, listen to each others’ view and being willing to accept that we do not all share the same opinions.

We will be posting the children’s work and photos of our activities on the new school website as well as or Twitter page!