

Y4 Topic Map: Autumn



P.E

The focus for this term will be dodgeball and 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 Monday afternoon. Children are to come to school wearing their PE kit on Monday, and remain in it all day.

PSHE

The children have begun the new academic year by understanding how to become a class team and making the school community a better place by recognising rights, responsibilities and democracy. 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 celebrate Mental Health Day by identifying what makes us happy in our daily lives and what can help when sad.

Our No Outsiders topic will highlight how differences and uniqueness are celebrated in all aspects of life.

R.E – Creation and Covenant

Throughout Year 4 the pupils will learn about people whose lives have been transformed by faith and hope in God. In the first branch pupils will study Abraham and consider how he changed through acting on his faith and entered into a covenantal relationship with God.

Pupils will explore aspects of the story of Elijah whose story shows the importance of faith and hope in God even in desperate times. Pupils will then make links between Elijah and John the Baptist.

Pupils will explore more about the type of messiah Jesus is and what it means to live a life in Christ.

Through learning about the theological virtues of faith, hope, and love, they will encounter the belief that good deeds flow out of a love of God, people do not do good things and earn God's love.

Prayer and Liturgy

Each day our class will spend time reflecting upon the qualities that God would like us to adopt in our daily lives. Fortnightly, children will create their own prayer and liturgy based on the weekly focus.

Science – Animals including Humans– during this topic the children will describe the simple functions and sequence of the human digestive system. They will be able to identify the types of human teeth, their uses and knowing ways to keep them clean and healthy. The children will compare teeth of carnivores, herbivores and omnivores and construct and interpret a variety of food chains by identifying producers, predators and prey. The children will have the opportunity to visit our forest area to observe animal habitats and what they eat. Our lessons will include controlled experiments and the children will make predictions and conclusions based on their findings.

History & Geography

This term we are learning about the Anglo-Saxon period and its impact on today's Britain. During this topic, the children will have many opportunities to present their findings about the past using drama-based activities, writing, data-handling and drawing. The children will use accurate dates and the correct topic related vocabulary to achieve this.

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 past trade links.

Learning Visits

Linking to our history topic, we are taking the children to the Museum of Liverpool for an exciting workshop about the Anglo Saxons and the Vikings. They will have the opportunity to explore real artefacts and to recreate an archaeological dig!

Class Novel- The Butterfly Lion by Michael Morpurgo

When Bertie rescues an orphaned white lion cub from the African veld, the pair are inseparable – until Bertie is sent to boarding school far away in England and the lion is sold to a circus.

ICT

Our first Computing topic this term will be Branching Databases. In this topic, the children will use devices to design and create a range of programs, systems and content that accomplish given goals, including collecting, analysing, evaluating and presenting data and information.

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, learn how to compose their own art piece and create their own wax-resist background to etch into.

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.

Music

Year 4 are extremely lucky to be having ukulele lessons with Mr Rowe this year! Music lessons will be delivered every Friday morning. The children will be learning, playing, composing and performing music throughout the year, including at our Christmas church service.

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 arithmetic maths tests and our 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 as 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 Times Table Rockstars to help us practise.

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 regular Oracy lessons. The children will be developing their ability to express themselves clearly, listen to each other's view on Chatta!

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.

In May, all Year 4 children will complete the statutory Multiplication Tables Check. It is great to get a head start now by practising regularly at home, helping children to recall their times tables quickly and confidently. Little and often makes a big difference!

Please support your child to complete their weekly homework, sent out on Mondays to be returned on Fridays