

Year Four Curriculum Overview

2024 Spring Term 1

English

The class will complete a non-comparative report based on the events in the opening chapters of Ted Hughes' 'Iron Man'. We will then further develop narrative skills using 'The Tin Forest' by Helen Ward to create a story focused on organisational devices with an environmental focus. Before half term, we will examine the structure and content of limericks by studying examples and creating our own to share with the class.

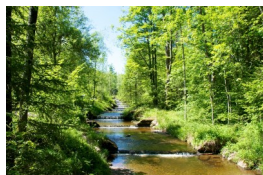
Our guided reading will include texts designed to create curious and skilled readers. To further support this, our class novel will be 'Girl of Ink and Stars' by Kiran Millwood Hargreave.

Spelling, Grammar and Handwriting will be taught, re-capped and consolidated in lessons throughout the week.



Science

Living things and their habitat is the biology topic that we will study this half term. The children will learn that living things can be grouped (classified) in different ways according to their features. Classification keys can be used to identify and name living things. Living things live in a habitat which provides an environment to which they are suited. These environments may change naturally e.g. through flooding, fire, earthquakes etc. Humans also cause the environment to change. This can be in a good way (i.e. positive human impact, such as setting up nature reserves) or in a bad way (i.e. negative human impact, such as littering). These environments also change with the seasons; different living things can be found in a habitat at different times of the year. We will study the influence of significant Scientists such as Jacques Cousteau (Marine biology), Cindy Looy (Environmental change and extinction) and Joean Beauchamp Proctor (Zoologist).



Maths

This year is an important one for our times tables as the children will be tested in the Summer Term. We will be working hard to recall all of our times tables under timed conditions.

We will begin the term with an exploration of length and perimeter and investigations into regular 2D shape knowledge and how to find missing sides of shapes. This will be followed by work on fractions.

In addition to manipulatives lessons each week (hands on activities) children will complete set tasks and then (with adult support) select their own 'Next Step' tasks to support, consolidate or develop as required.



PE

The children will be taught by our Key Sports coaches and will focus on: trigolf and badminton where they will learn to hit with accuracy and control. They will be encouraged to evaluate their performance and develop hand-eye coordination.



Computing

We will learn about data logging. We will consider how and why data is collected over time. Pupils will consider the senses that humans use to experience the environment and how computers can use special input devices, called sensors, to monitor the environment. Pupils will collect data as well as access data captured over long periods of time. They will look at data points, data sets, and logging intervals. Pupils will spend time using a computer to review and analyse data. Towards the end of the unit, pupils will pose questions and then use data loggers to automatically collect the data needed to answer those questions.

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French

We will study French portraits and learn how to correctly identify a person from a description of their hair and eye colour. We will place word cards in the correct order, with the adjectives following the noun.

Children will create a spoken sentence to describe a friend and be able to write four sentences accurately with the correct adjectival agreement.

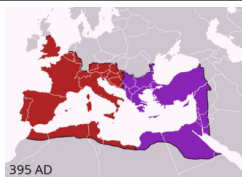


Music

We will be revising the notes of a major scale, then concentrating on the pentatonic scale (5 notes), using them to improvise short call and response phrases. We'll be listening to different styles of music, starting with Jazz, and learning to play the ocarina, as well as singing rounds and partner songs.

History

This term's topic is Roman Britain. The class will learn about the ancient Britons and our land of diversity as a land of migrants (eg Celts). Lessons will focus on the Celtic language and Celtic culture. Year 4 will examine the rebellions: of Caractacus and Boudicca. We will take a close look at a Roman town: Aquae Sulis. Life on the frontier will be considered as we study Hadrian's Wall and Black Romans in Britain. Our Big Question will be: What kinds of knowledge about Roman Britain have historians been able to build from the sources?



Art

Year 4 will study the sculptures of Barbara Hepworth. Further investigations of Paul Joachim and the drawings of John Piper will inspire children to use negative space in an interesting way. By the end of the term the children will have produced their own sculpture using carving tools and a detailed charcoal or pencil drawing of a church or cathedral.

PSHE

In the 'Working Together' unit children begin to develop lifelong skills in communication and working with others. It also helps them to identify and value their own strengths, gifts and talents and to understand how these, along with others' skills and strengths, can contribute to the success of a group task. We will also learn about 'Financial Capability'. This unit will help children understand the importance of money in our lives, where it might come from, and in particular how we can earn it.

RE

In RE, children will learn about the life and teachings of Jesus in the New Testament stories. This will include: the life of Jesus and its meaning for Christians, Jesus in the Temple, Jesus is baptised and tempted, the Disciples and Sermon on the Mount, the Miracles of Jesus, Parables of Jesus and the Transfiguration of Jesus. Children will question why these stories are important to Christians and how Christians shown their importance in their drama, art and music.

Geography

Year 4 will learn about coastal processes and landforms and in particular diversity in the UK coastline. Lessons will focus on the processes of erosion and coastal landforms (including beaches, headlands and bays). We will explore the Jurassic coast, including significance of its rocks, fossils and landforms. Children will investigate coastal habitats using contrasting examples, including coasts of the Indian Ocean. Our in-depth focus will be the West Wales coast.



DT

We will design and make a book sleeve in textiles. This will involve exploring fastenings and stitches, designing and evaluating creations.

