



Autumn Term – Curriculum Newsletter

Year 4

English

Speaking and Listening

There are many opportunities interwoven in the Year 4 curriculum to develop speaking and listening skills. During this term the children will be particularly focusing on developing their skills of articulating and justifying their opinions and gaining, maintaining and monitoring the interest of listeners.

Reading

During the Autumn term the children will be focusing on two main texts Matilda and Varjak Paw. They will be aiming to secure their decoding skills to allow them to more effectively decode unfamiliar words. They will be identifying and discussion words and phrases that capture the imagination. They will be practising retrieving and recording information, making inferences and justifying predictions and identifying and summarising main ideas from texts.

Writing

This term the children will develop their skills of creating stories in historical settings, explanation texts, biographies and autobiographies and stories from other cultures. Using these genres of writing the children will also learn to correctly spell common homophones, Increase regularity of handwriting, organise writing into paragraphs, use simple organisational devices, proof-read for spelling & punctuation errors, use wider range of conjunctions and select pronouns and nouns for clarity.

Maths

In the Summer term the Year 4 children will take the national multiplication test as a result this year it is important for them to know all tables to 12 x 12 – with a big focus on TT Rockstars. The children will also be working on column addition & subtraction up to 4 digits, the skills of multiplying & dividing mentally, recognising tenths & hundredths, solving money problems and shape & space.

Our topic for the Autumn term is 'Made a difference'. During this topic, we will be focusing on the following subjects, History, Geography, Art and D&T. We will be learning about the following things:

During this topic the children will be learning about significant individuals from history who have made a positive impact on the world we live in today. During the historical part of this topic the children will be developing their skills of independent research to find out more about the positive contribution of these individuals. The children will develop their geography skills by using maps to locate where these individuals are from in a variety of countries from around the globe, they will then develop their understanding of what these countries are like. Following this the children will learn about two famous artists and they will produce their own art work inspired by one of the artists. In the second half of the Autumn term children will taking inspiration from local landmark Cadbury World to design and create chocolate bars. As part of Design and Technology, children will design a chocolate bar, design wrappers and carry out market research. The learning journey will conclude with children creating their delicious chocolate bar. Finally, children will write speeches and make posters about how they were going to become significant individuals in the future. Families will be invited in to hear all about it!

In this topic we will be using the following vocabulary, if possible please talk about these words at home to ensure your child has good understanding of their meaning:

History – Suffrage, segregation, equality, significant, person, contribution, society, Quaker, not appreciated at the time, time line, time period, changes, impact, Taliban.

Geography – America, UK, Bourneville, South Africa, France, Pakistan.

Art and Design – Collage, colour, emotion, theme, visual, complementary, contrasting, similarities and differences, sketch book.

Design and Technology – Product, design, sources, packaging, develop, ingredients, healthy, safety, processes, preserve, evaluate, research, money, change.

As part of the topic the children will go on the following trips / have the following experiences:

- Dress up as a significant person and making chocolate bars.

Science

In Science, this term, Year 4 will be looking at Animals including Humans and Sound.

The key skills they will cover are:

- Describing the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans through investigation.
- Constructing and interpreting a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.
- Identifying how sounds are made.
- Finding patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it.

PSHE/Peacemakers

During Peacemakers we will be focusing on target setting, respect, kindness and co-operation. We will discuss the different ways children can make sure they demonstrate these skills. We will also look at how conflict affects them.

We will:

- Talk about their achievements and plan how to work towards new goals
- Identify positive ways to face new challenges, applying knowledge creatively.
- Make use of constructive feedback.
- Recognise that their actions affect themselves and others.

PE

PE in Year 4 is on a Tuesday afternoon. This term the skills we will focus on are ball skills and boot camp fitness. Your child will experience a raised heart rate so it is essential they have the correct PE kit to allow for this. During the Autumn term our PE lessons will take place in the hall.

On Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons your child will participate in the Daily Mile. PE kit is not required for this activity.

RE

During RE in Year 4 this term children will learn about Hinduism, they will begin to understand the difference between happiness and spiritual joy. They will look at how Hindus express joy through the Diwali celebrations.

They will also look at how Harvest Festival helps the needs of individuals in society today.

We will also cover Buddhism; children will get the opportunity to experience the practice of meditation!

French

This term in French year 4 will concentrate on memorising and presenting spoken text and listening for sounds, rhyme and rhythm. We will also write simple words and phrases.

Homework

Your child has been given a homework grid. They need to complete one activity from the grid every fortnight. They will be rewarded for completing homework tasks, which is to be handed once a fortnight on a Friday. We will celebrate this in class too. We have many resources in school to help your child complete their homework. If there are any questions on this, please email the Year 4 team and we will be more than happy to help you.

We would also like to encourage children to read regularly at home where they can track the books they read on Bug Club. They should also be practising their multiplication on TT Rockstars; they have a test in the Summer term.

Key Dates

- 04/11/20 – Dress up day (children are required to dress up as a significant individual from history).