



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 decode unfamiliar words more effectively. They will be identifying and discussing 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 based on known fairy tales, non-chronological reports, 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 mentally, partitioning larger numbers to help to solve problems and Perimeter.

Topic

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.

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, in doing this they will 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 artwork inspired by one of the artists.

As a year group the children will visit Cadbury World to find out more about the history, local community and the production of chocolate. From this, children will take inspiration to design their own chocolate bars and wrappers, including carrying out market research, as part of their Design and Technology lessons. The learning journey will conclude with children creating their own delicious chocolate bar. Finally, children will write speeches and make posters about how they were going to become significant individuals in the future.

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, timeline, time period, changes, impact, Taliban.

Geography – America, UK, Bournville, 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.

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 Thursday. 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. Children must wear the correct school PE kit. Branded clothing is not acceptable. On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 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 the 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.

In addition to this, we will cover Buddhism and 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.

Music

Throughout this year children will take part in ukulele lessons. There will be opportunities to develop their understanding of timbre and tempo and to discuss how various pieces of music make them feel.

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 in on a Wednesday and returned to them to take home on a Friday. We have many resources in school to help your child complete their homework should you require them. We would also like to encourage children to read regularly at home where they can and return their reading diary to collect their stamp as a reward. They should also be practising their multiplication on TT Rockstars; they have a test in the Summer term.

Key Dates

- 13/10/22 Trip to Cadbury World