

Summer Term Overview

Welcome back,

I hope you had a lovely Easter and are enjoying the new term. We have a great term ahead and we have planned an exciting and varied curriculum to ensure that your children feel motivated and challenged over the coming weeks.

Equipment:

As mentioned in our Autumn Newsletter, the children in Class 4 are encouraged to have their own writing equipment in a small pencil case. **Blue gel or ink pens only please** and a **coloured biro for editing**. They also need pencils and highlighters. Coloured pencils and pens are useful, but we do have a good stock of these in class.

As always, the children are encouraged to bring a **re-useable water bottle** to keep them hydrated and help their concentration. The weather is getting warmer so this is especially important now.

The children have PE twice a week (**Wednesday and Thursday**). Thank you for making sure they come into school in the correct clothing on these days. This seems to be working very well.

Homework:

The children receive Spelling and Times Table homework every week, as well as additional tasks relating to different curriculum areas. We will post the homework on Google Classroom. From May, we will be running a homework club for those children who would appreciate extra support, or fewer distractions! Details in a separate letter.

If you have any concerns or worries please speak to us or another member of staff.

Mrs Brine and Mrs Gervaise-Jones

Maths: Our main focus this term is to consolidate the children's understanding of Number, Place Value, Fractions, Decimals and Percentages. Ensuring the children have a fluent and solid grasp of these areas will give them the opportunity to be successful mathematicians as they continue into Year 6 and into Secondary School. We have started a 'times tables challenge' to encourage the children to learn and practise as many of their times tables as possible; your child will be able to tell you more about this.



English: We began the term with the class read: 'The Fox Girl and the White Gazelle' by Victoria Williamson. It is about two girls from very different ethnic and demographic backgrounds and how their friendship and characters develop over time. It has a very powerful message and we are getting so much out of it in our English lessons. It has strong links to our PSHE curriculum too.



Our second book of the term will be 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty, which will link to our History topic after half term. Some of the children have already read it, which is fantastic. The focus, as well as empathising with the character, will be exploring narrative plot, settings, characters and drawing inferences to aid understanding. We will be writing texts based on fictional experiences, recounts from a character's point of view and in a chosen form for a selected audience.

We will finish the term with a mini study of Shakespeare and hopefully a performance linked to this.

Reading: It is important the children continue to develop their skills of reading, understanding and questioning. An hourly-guided whole class reading session continues to take place once a week alongside focused guided group discussions. During this time, children read an age-appropriate book, answer questions and develop their inference skills.

The children are expected to have a free-choice reading book. Please support your child by checking that they are reading **every day**, including to an adult for a minimum of twenty minutes. We have recently purchased some fantastic new reading books for the class based on recommendations from the children.

Science: This term we are learning about 'Properties and Changes in Materials'. This is a very hands-on topic providing the opportunity for lots of child-led investigations. The children will be exploring dissolving, filtration and evaporation, and learning that some changes are reversible and others are irreversible. They will be finding out that some changes result in the formation of new materials.

Design & Technology: In response to our Rivers topic, we are looking at bridges and how they are constructed differently to support different types of traffic. Children will have the chance to construct their own bridges at the end of the unit. They are really enjoying the practical side of this subject.

Art: As part of our History topic on Crime and Punishment in Victorian times, the children will produce Victorian Silhouette Portraits of themselves and create a photo in the style of a Victorian Prisoner.

RE – Our topic for RE is Justice and Fairness. The children will evaluate and ask challenging questions applying their own and others' ideas about responsibility/ right and wrong, considering possible effects of different moral choices.

Geography: This term's topic is Rivers where children are finding out more about why rivers are so important to the towns and villages that have developed on their banks. We will investigate the features of rivers, and the natural and human ways that rivers change over time. The children will also learn the names and locations of the major rivers of the UK and the world.

History: Our topic in History is Crime and Punishment (Victorians). We will encourage the children to regularly address and sometimes devise historically valid questions, identify and give reasons for historical events, situations and changes and describe social diversity during this period. To complement the Crime and Punishment topic, we will have a visit from Mr Crispin, who will re-create a scenario based on what happens in the Magistrates' Court.

PE: The children continue to be taught by a sports coach on Wednesdays and Thursdays. For this term they are learning athletic skills followed by rounders after half term.

PSHCE: In PSHE we are focussing on the Zones of Regulation - a systematic, cognitive-behavioral approach used to teach us how to regulate our feelings, energy and sensory needs in order to meet the demands of the situation around us and be successful socially and with our learning.

MFL: This term we are learning Spanish, where we are mainly revising what the children learnt in Class 3. The lessons are very active, made up of lots of conversation, moving around the classroom and games.

Music: Tring's Swing Band will be visiting for an assembly on Friday 21st May where the children will have the opportunity to look at different instrument families.

Computing: This term Class 4 will be taught all about e-safety and how to stay safe when using technology. They will also be exploring algorithms and how to use simple logarithms to Create simple programs with avatars on Scratch.

Class 4



"...curious and creative thinkers, independent and enthusiastic learners and confident individuals..."

