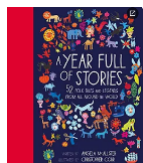




Welcome back! I hope that you and your family had an enjoyable summer. This letter is to keep you informed about some of the learning that the Year 4 children will be completing during the Autumn term.



English

During the Autumn term, the children will explore a fantastic range of narrative, non-fiction and poetic texts. They will continue to develop their reading skills by retrieving information, making inferences and supporting their answers with evidence from the text.

To begin the term, the children will be exploring traditional tales from around the world, before writing their own take on a traditional tale that we have studied in class, 'The Magic Leaves'. Throughout the term they will explore visual literacy through a John Lewis Christmas advert, focusing on writing to describe characters and settings. They will read the classic story 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Roald Dahl and use this as a stimulus for writing a diary in role and an instructional text.

Using 'What a Waste' as a stimulus, the children will write their own information text about the importance of recycling.

They will also study the classic poem 'The Listeners' by Walter De La Mare and use this to write their own atmospheric setting description.

Throughout the term, the children will develop their ability to write at greater length, with increasing accuracy, detail and control across a variety of genres. They will also continue to strengthen their understanding and application of grammar, punctuation and spelling.



Mathematics



During the Autumn term, the children will develop their understanding of place value and the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. This term they will also begin to learn about area; they will learn that area is the amount of space taken up by a two-dimensional shape or surface and they will explore different ways of working out the area of a shape. The children will also be learning their multiplication times tables and working on their speed and accuracy. Regular maths starters will provide opportunities to revisit and consolidate previous learning, and daily reasoning problems will enhance their problem solving skills and enable them to draw on many previously taught aspects of Maths and strengthen key skills.

Science

During the Autumn term, the children will study two exciting science units. In 'In a State', they will explore different states of matter: solid, liquid and gas. They will be looking carefully at the properties of materials in each state of matter. In 'Good Vibrations', they will investigate how sound is made, how sound travels and how we can change the pitch of sound. Both units will give the children opportunities to develop their investigative skills.



Personal, Social and Health Education - PSHE

Our Jigsaw themes this term are *Being Me in My World* and *Celebrating Difference*. Weekly Thrive, Zones of Regulation and My Happy Mind sessions will support their emotional well-being, social skills and ability to express their feelings and needs.

Physical Education - PE

This term, the children will focus on gymnastics, basketball, football and dance. Our PE days are Tuesdays and Fridays; on these days children should wear a white T-shirt, dark shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms, with their school jumper, cardigan or fleece over the top (no football shirts). Please ensure children have the correct kit for each session.

Digital Technology

This term, the children will be enhancing their PowerPoint skills and creating their own PowerPoint presentations. They will also learn how to use search technologies effectively, appreciate how results are selected and ranked, and be discerning in evaluating digital content. They will select, use and combine a variety of software to collect, analyse, evaluate and present data and Information.



Languages

This term, the children will continue developing their Spanish vocabulary. They will practise using basic phrases and begin ask and answer basic questions.

Religious Education – RE

Within Religious Education, the children will be exploring the following key question over the course of the term:

- Would visiting the River Ganges make a person a better Sanatani?
- What is the most significant part of the nativity story for Christians today?



History

This term, the children will study the Mayan Civilization. They will explore the characteristics and features of the Mayan society and compare it with the state of Britain at the same time i.e. about AD1100. The children will develop the skill of using evidence and will try to work out how we can be so sure about what life was like for the Maya a thousand years ago.



Geography

This term, the children will explore volcanoes and earthquakes. They will learn about the layers of the Earth and the tectonic plates, including how the fault lines cause earthquakes. They will study the life cycle of volcanoes, learn what a tsunami is and consider the impact of natural disasters, and how we can prepare for them.

Art

This term, the children will develop their drawing and painting skills by creating artwork inspired by the natural world. They will explore proportion, line, shape, mixing paint to create tints and shades and the use of stippling to add texture to their paintings.

Design and Technology

This term, the children will bake their own bread. They will carry out research, learn what bread is made from and the role of yeast in the rising process. They will also measure ingredients and follow a recipe. They will learn the techniques to mix, knead, prove and shape the dough. Once they have their final product, they will test and evaluate it against the design criteria.

Music

This term, the children will start to learn how to play the recorder. They will also listen to samba music and identify some of the different instruments used. They will explore samba music and discover that many rhythms are played at the same time using untuned percussion, and call and response is often used.

Reading at Home

This term, we are excited to introduce Accelerated Reader, our new reading programme designed to support and encourage children's reading development. Further information about the programme and how it will work will be shared in a separate letter. Remember, children should be reading at least 3 times a week.

How We Record Your Child's Reading

Instead of using traditional reading diaries, we will record reading through ClassDojo this year. Each time your child reads in school, we will add an entry to their ClassDojo portfolio.

When your child reads at home, please also record this on their portfolio through **the child's ClassDojo account**. This will allow us to celebrate and keep track of their reading both at school and at home. If you need any help accessing or using your child's account, please let me know.

MTC Information

In Year 4, the children will have national standardised test of their multiplication times tables knowledge, known as the MTC. More information will be shared about this later in the year but please be advised that this is nothing to worry about. All I ask is that the children practice their times tables on a very regular basis. **Times Tables Rockstars** is an excellent way for children to practise and consolidate their times table knowledge. Please encourage your child to practise their times tables at home. Children who can recall their times table facts rapidly are then able to excel in other areas of Maths, such as fractions, division, area and multiplication of much larger numbers.

Trips

Throughout the year, the children will have a variety of opportunities to enhance their curriculum offer with trips and visits. Further information regarding trips and visitors will be shared shortly.

Class Dojo

Class Dojo is a communication platform to keep you informed of your children's work as well as any key information that we need to share with you on a daily basis. Please ensure you keep up to date with messages posted out on Dojo as we use this as our daily means of communication. If you are having any difficulties accessing this, please let us know.

As always, many thanks for your continued support and if you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to ask, Miss Youden