

Year 4 Curriculum Overview

English

This term we will be exploring writing a diary entry, using Shackleton's Journey and a narrative using Maisie vs Antarctica before moving on to write a recount using How to Train your Dragon as a starting point. Finally, we will use Street Child to write a persuasive letter. The Year 4 Grammar objectives will be taught alongside the writing lessons. BBC Bitesize is a great place to support your child with grammar.



Maths

Following the White Rose Maths overview, the children will be focusing on the following concepts:

- Place value (up to 4-digits)
- Addition and subtraction (4-digit numbers with exchanging)
- Multiplication and Division
- Area

The NCETM Mastering Number programme will be taught daily.

Times tables and Fluency Facts will continue to be focuses for learning at home.

Science

In Science, children will be learning to group and classify living things. They will explore animal groups, vertebrates and invertebrates and classifying animals and plants using classification keys. They will also collect and analyse data relating to this topic. Following this, they will be investigating States of Matter (solids, liquids and gases and how they change).

Art

The art unit this half term is 'Craft and Design.' Children will be inspired by rainforest plants and animals and use viewfinders to 'zoom in' on small areas of photographs to create oil pastel drawings. The next step will be to use batik techniques to create a background.

Computing

Children will learn about the internet, by initially exploring networks and what makes up the internet. They will learn how the internet is used to share information, what websites are and who owns the web, whilst considering the positives and negatives associated with the internet.

Guided Reading

This term our focus texts will be those used for the writing prompts, above. We will use the reading dogs to practise a range of comprehension skills including retrieval, inference and summarising. Children will be asked to produce written outcomes to demonstrate their understanding but will also be involved in lots of verbal discussions to support their developing comprehension.

PSHE

This half term we will be focusing on mental health and well-being as part of our bigger 'Health and well-being' unit. We will learn ways to describe our feelings, understand how choices affect ourselves and others and some techniques to help us deal with them.

French

The children will continue to read, write and speak French. We will initially go over some things learnt previously, such as describing appearance and introducing themselves with name, age and where they live. 'Ma Famille,' where they will speak and write about their family, will be the final unit of the term,

Geography

Our unit for the first half term is 'Who lives in Antarctica?' We will learn what climate is by looking at significant lines of latitude. Whilst finding out the location of Antarctica, we will describe the physical and human features of it. We will also learn about Shackleton's expedition route to Antarctica and plan a route on a map to conduct an expedition on the school grounds.



Religious Education

Our focus areas this term are 'Where do religious beliefs come from?' This is a Christianity-linked theology unit, in which they will explore thinking through believing by asking and exploring questions and answers that arise from inside religions and worldviews.

After half term the unit will focus on Philosophy. 'What do we mean by truth? Is seeing believing?'

PE

There will be two PE lessons each week. This half term, our PE focus is Yoga and our Games focus is Netball. After half term, we will be focusing on Gymnastics and Ball Skills.

DT

Our DT topic will build on the sewing skills we learnt in Year 3 to add applique animals to our batik designs from Art. We will add different types of fastenings and evaluate our designs.

History

Our unit this half term is 'How have children's lives changed?' We will use sources to explore this and focus on how Tudor and Victorian children lived. We will also learn about Lord Shaftesbury, changes in children's leisure time and the diseases they would catch.

Music

The music unit this half term is 'Ancient China', which focuses on pitch and reading and writing notation. They will take part in a variety of composing, performing and singing tasks, all inspired through exploration of ancient Chinese music.