

Year 4 Curriculum Letter
Summer Term 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

This letter is to provide you with information about the work your children will be doing this Summer term.

Language:

Children in year 4 learn in small matched level groups for Literacy throughout the year. We will be using the Junior English literacy scheme where each week children will have a focus piece of text. The text will either be fiction or non-fiction, on a linked theme which children will be required to read, discuss and on which they will answer questions. There will be a particular grammar focus for the week and this will culminate in a writing piece in which the children are expected to draw on the vocabulary development and grammar focus of that week. The children will study a variety of texts of differing genres and will be encouraged to read more widely around the theme of the week. This focus on a variety of genres will also be reflected in their writing tasks. Punctuation and grammar work will be covered in detail through dedicated lessons, as well as, through implementation in our writing activities. Spelling will be set at appropriate individual levels using a special spelling programme and will be practised daily. Handwriting will also be practised daily using our Penpals handwriting scheme.

Reading:

We encourage the children to read a variety of books that will include home reading, shared reading in the class, library books and also books that they have written themselves. We will be focusing on comprehension to enable all children to have a greater understanding of the text. Every Monday your child will have the opportunity to visit the school library. They will share one book with you at home, and the other book will be read at school during Drop Everything and Read. Your child's reading diary should be used when reading at home and will be a useful form of communication between school and home.

They also have a Reading Record that you must complete each time your child reads to you. This is an excellent way for us to track how much supported reading the children are doing with an adult. We ask that you aim to read with your child for a short period of time each evening.

Speaking and Listening:

Children will have opportunities to talk to build their speaking and listening skills through a range of planned activities, such as partner talk, drama, writing and PSHE. The latter is an excellent opportunity for the children to actively participate in a discussion on a range of topics, which has a profound effect on their spoken English. They will also be given the opportunity to talk about their work in other areas of the curriculum, especially to discuss ways in which they can improve their work.

Maths:

The children will be taught in small, matched level numeracy groups to support differentiated learning. In Maths we use a bespoke Maths programme written specifically for CHAT. It encompasses the best elements from a range of schemes, allowing teachers to make their maths teaching exciting and innovative. This term the children will be working on further application of the mathematical operations, using the inverse, symmetry, place value, factor pairs, interpreting data, plotting and transposing shapes and coordinates, fractions, scaling, estimates and measure.

Science:

This term in year 4, we will be learning about the States of Matter. The children will be focusing on solids, liquids and gasses and how these can be manipulated. They will be conducting experiments and comparing and grouping solids, liquids or gases, observing that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius (°C). They will identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.

ICT:

In ICT the children will have the opportunity to use the iPads, iPods and laptops to create and their own Wikipedia page. In this unit, the pupils collaborate to create a 'mini Wikipedia'. They then go on to add or amend content on the real Wikipedia.

Religious Education:

In RE this term the children will be learning about Sacred Books and why they are sacred. They will explore aspects each Sacred book from the main world's religions and begin to understand why each of the books are significant to their belief of those that follow their scriptures. They will further explore the places of worship where these books are used and how they are also used.

Music:

In music the children will be using iPads to create music using the Garage band software. The children will understand they can play a computerised item like a musical instrument; touching the screen when using an instrument creates information called MIDI, and this then makes a sound. They will further understand that this is liken to writing down a sentence and then having somebody else read it back for you; but you aren't writing down the sound, you're writing down information for somebody else to read.

History:

In History, the children will learn about The Great Fire of London and how the changes it brought about. They will further discover the types of plagues that existed during this period and the different types of healthcare that existed as well as the various beliefs at the time.

Geography:

The children will be learning about Coasts. They will develop and understanding of what Coasts are and how they are formed. The children will learn about the coasts of South West England. They will also explore waves, tides, and currents and how these help create coastlines and beaches including the different types of beaches, etc.

Art:

In Art the children will be learning about various Styles of Art. These will include Embroidery, Needlework (cross stitch) and Tapestry; as well as weaving. They will work on various project to develop and apply their skills by working on various projects.

PE:

In PE the children will be exploring balance using a range of gymnastic techniques and applying these using apparatus. They will create sequences that include changes of level and speed, and focus on using different body shapes clearly, working with a partner or in a small group. On Thursday, the children will complete their outdoor PE session focusing on striking and fielding techniques and applying these to various outdoor games.

PE Days: - Wednesday and Thursday.

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School bags and water bottles must be brought into school every day.

Useful websites to use at home with your children:

www.primaryresources.co.uk

www.stockton.gov.uk

www.bbc.co.uk

Parental Involvement

There are many ways you can help and support your child's learning at home. This may involve reading stories, listening to their reading or visiting the library. You could also help by encouraging them to discuss what they have been doing both in and out of school.

If you are unable to collect your child from school please inform the class teacher or school office with the name of the person collecting your child.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Morrissey

Year 4 Teacher