

Autumn Term – Year 4



Welcome to Year 4! We hope you have had a fantastic summer break and are looking forward to the year ahead. It is wonderful to see how well the children have already settled into Year 4 and we are all really excited about the coming months.

The two year 4 classes are taught by Mrs de Boer (4VdB) and Mr Draper (4JD). The classes are supported by Mrs Johnson and Mrs Gerrard. We work closely as a year group and all the children will get to know the Year 4 team really well.

If you have any questions, queries or worries at any point in the year, please do not hesitate to get in touch via the office or when you see one of us on the playground at the end of the day.

Maths

We will be starting the year with number work and place value, moving onto addition and subtraction and measurement. During the second half of the Autumn term, we will be looking at multiplication, division and statistics. Throughout our maths sessions, we will be encouraging the children to use and apply their mathematical understanding across a range of mathematical areas, alongside an emphasis on arithmetic skills. Depth learning, questioning and problem solving will be encouraged within maths lessons. There will be weekly multiplication tables lessons and it would be great for the children to practise their times tables at home.



English

We are starting this term looking at narrative and different fiction genres using a range of different stimuli, one of which will be linking our English lessons to our history topic on 'The Vikings'. During this unit, the children will also look at some examples of Viking myths and legends. In the second part of the Autumn term, we will look at play scripts and diary writing. Our final unit will focus on letter writing linked to our geography topic on 'rainforests'. Grammar skills will be taught and embedded within the writing units of work. We will also have sessions of writing in different curriculum areas to allow us to use and apply our skills across the curriculum. There will be weekly spelling and handwriting sessions. Each week there will be different reading sessions, which will include reading as a stimulus to inspire writing, focused comprehension reading lessons, individual reading opportunities and a class text that will be read regularly. Please continue to encourage your child to read at home and to ask questions about what they read.



History / Geography

Our first topic is history based and focuses on 'The Vikings'. In this unit, the children will develop their knowledge and understanding of the Vikings and Viking culture, exploring the Vikings as warriors, traders and settlers. The children will also examine their impact on the places they raided.

Our second topic is geography based and focuses on 'rainforests'. In this unit, the children will learn where the rainforests are, their benefits to humans and the environment and the impact of deforestation.



Computing

In our computing sessions this term, we will reinforce our understanding of E-safety and how to stay safe online. We will be looking at creating media through photographs, learning how digital images can be changed and edited and the impact of this. We will also be looking at the internet and learning about the world wide web, evaluating some of the content that is found on the internet. In Year 4, we will be using ICT throughout the curriculum to really embed our skills and deepen our knowledge and understanding.



Science

Our first unit of work in science is called 'States of Matter' and our second unit is called 'The digestive system and food chains'. Within these units of work, we will look at solids, liquids and gases, the water cycle, teeth, digestion and food webs. Within science, we encourage children to become scientific thinkers and to ask as well as answer questions.



PE

For the first half term, both 4VdB and 4JD will have PE on a Tuesday and Friday.

Some PE sessions will be set to take place outside, weather permitting.

Please ensure your child comes to school in the correct PE kit on these days (white t-shirt, black shorts, jogging bottoms, a warm top and trainers).



Religions and Worldviews

Our first unit of work will focus on the beliefs of Humanists using the questions 'What is a Humanist and what matters most to a Humanist?' In our second unit of work, the children will consider what different people do in difficult times and the impact this might have on them.



Other Curriculum Areas

The children will experience a range of different curriculum areas and opportunities in Year 4 this term. Alongside the curriculum areas already mentioned, they will also experience units of work in:

- Music
- French
- PSHE
- DT
- Art

Homework

The children will be given a grid with activities from a range of different curriculum areas to choose from. Each half term, the children will be expected to complete a minimum number of tasks from the choices to be completed by a certain date. There will be a variety of different types of tasks to choose from. The children will be given a homework book in which to complete their work.

Alongside this, the children will be expected to read at home either to, with you or alone. They will also be asked to continue to learn and practise their multiplication tables.



Year 4 Reminders

- The school day starts at 8.50 am and finishes at 3.30 pm. The children come into school and leave through the cloakrooms. Please ensure children wear the correct school uniform to school.
- PE days are Tuesdays and Fridays - the children need to come to school in their PE kit.
- The Year 4 team are:
4VdB - Mrs de Boer and Mrs Johnson
4JD - Mr Draper and Mrs Gerrard
- There is lots of information on the school website, including the Year 4 class pages.

We are here to help, so please contact us if you have any questions.

Year 4 Reading Journey

In our reading sessions, Year 4 will be exploring a range of texts. Please encourage your child to read at home and to record their reading using 'track my read'.

