

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, Ms Capiron, Mrs Griggs-Sealy and Ms Ager. 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 time. During the second half of the Autumn term, we will be looking at multiplication and division, fractions, area 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.



Creative Curriculum

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.

In art, the children will explore and use drawing techniques inspired by flora and fauna.



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

The children have many exciting activities coming up in science this term. Our first topic is called 'The Gruffalo's Forest' and our second topic is called 'Running Wild with Bear Grylls'. Within these units of work, we will look at a range of topics from sound and light to animals in their habitats. 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).



Religious Education

Our RE lessons this term will be focusing on the question 'Why do we have celebrations?'. We will explore this question by looking at and comparing Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism, Judaism, Islam and also within a non-religious context.



Other Curriculum Areas

The children will experience a wealth of different curriculum areas and opportunities in Year 4 this term. They will also encounter units of work in:

- Music
- Design Technology
- French



Personal, Health, Social Education and Citizenship

The children will start the school year by looking at a topic called 'Being Me in My World'. Within this topic, children will look at how and where they fit into the world around them and the important role they play in being part of the school and wider community. The second topic is called 'Celebrating Difference'.

Homework

Children will be given a grid with activities from a range of different curriculum areas to choose from and they can earn points by completing different activities. Children will be expected to earn a minimum number of points. During the first half term, all homework will be paper based. During the second half term, the homework will be set on Microsoft teams to be completed online. We will encourage the children to access and submit their homework through teams. Paper based homework can be given if it is not possible to use teams.

Alongside this, 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, Ms Capiron, Mrs Griggs-Sealy and Ms Ager
- 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.