





Curriculum Overview for Parents and Carers





Year 4




Summer Term

This term we will be learning the following things. Here are some useful hints and tips for helping at home!

	Overview of Learning	Ideas for Learning at Home
<p>English</p>	<p>Our first class novel of the summer term will be 'The Wild Robot' by Peter Brown followed by 'Varjak Paw' by S. F. Said. In Whole class reading lessons, we will develop key reading skills through a wide variety of text types that link to other areas of the curriculum.</p> <p>Our first three pieces of writing will be based on a previous class novel, 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Roald Dahl which the children absolutely loved! Our first piece of writing is a persuasive flyer advertising a new chocolate bar. Our second piece will be a character episode followed by a rhyming poem, inspired by the Oompa Loompas! Our final two pieces of writing will be based on 'The Adventures of Robin Hood' by Adrian Mitchell and will be a legend and a local newspaper report.</p>	<p>Listening to your child read at home will not only support them with their reading fluency and comprehension but can also greatly help with their writing skills and imagination too!</p> <p>Practicing weekly spellings with your child will help them to embed patterns and rules to support their writing. It is important for children to practise their writing skills whenever they get a chance, consolidating basic punctuation skills and using adventurous vocabulary. Can they write a short story using their favourite book as inspiration? Or maybe write a diary entry about somewhere you have visited as a family?</p>
<p>Maths</p>	<p>Our first topic for the summer term will be fractions where the children will learn about mixed numbers, proper and improper fractions. They will also learn to compare, order, add and subtract these. Our next topic will be symmetry in 2D shapes where children will create a symmetrical pattern, compose symmetrical shapes from two congruent shapes, fold shapes for symmetry, use a mirror to find symmetry and reflect polygons over a line of symmetry.</p> <p>Finally, we will finish with our 'time' topic. The children will learn about am and pm, convert 12-hour into 24-hour and 24-hour into 12-hour. They will use this knowledge to tell the time effectively on both digital and analogue clocks, reason and solve problems.</p>	<p>It is important that your child knows all of the multiplication and division facts up to 12×12 by the end of the year. A secure knowledge of the times tables and related division facts will also help your child to work much more confidently with other areas of maths. Please encourage your child to practise their times tables at least 3 times a week - Times Tables Rockstars is a fun way to do this.</p> <p>Telling the time can be a tricky concept to learn. Can you practice with your child at home? Ask them what the time is. Tell them the time and explain how you know that.</p>

<p>Science</p> 	<p>In the first half term, the children will be exploring sound. In this unit, the children will learn to identify how sounds are made, associating them with something vibrating. They will find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it. They will recognise that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases. They will recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear. They will find patterns between the pitch of a sound and the features of the object that produced it.</p> <p>In our final half term, Year 4 will cover electricity. They will identify common appliances that run on electricity and construct simple series circuits, identifying and naming basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers. The children will identify whether or not a lamp will light in a simple series circuit, based on whether or not a lamp is part of a complete loop with a battery. They will recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.</p>	<p>Can you talk about different sounds and how they are made? Can they tell you about volume and pitch?</p> <p>Do children know the electrical dangers in the home? Can they identify household conductors and insulators?</p>
<p>History</p> 	<p>Our first big question for the summer term will be, 'What did the earliest civilisations have in common?' The children will learn that a civilisation is a human society with its own social organisation and culture. The earliest civilisations include Ancient Sumer, the Indus Valley, Ancient Egypt, and the Shang Dynasty of Ancient China. By the end of this topic, the children will have an overview of the earliest civilisations and understand the way they lived and the impact that they had on the future.</p> <p>Our second big question for the summer term will be, 'What were the achievements of Ancient Egypt and what did they lead to?' We will learn about the significance of the River Nile, agricultural advances of Ancient Egypt, how society was structured, understanding the role of the scribe and how this is important today, Egyptian beliefs on life and death and the accomplishments of the Egyptians.</p>	<p>There are some great books and videos available about the Ancient Egyptians that may enhance and deepen your child's understanding of this time period, particularly Horrible Histories.</p> <p>Talk to your child about what they have learnt. Can they explain it to you?</p>
<p>Art & Design</p> 	<p>This term in art our topic is 'Sculpture: The Human Form', where will gain inspiration from significant individuals such as Anthony Gormley, Barbara Hepworth and Alberto Giacometti. The children will use clay to form 3D shapes by rolling, moulding, cutting, coiling, twisting and pressing. They will learn how to join pieces together with slip and decorate their sculptures with imprinting techniques. We will ensure that when making a human form that we will think about the proportion of the components before joining them together.</p>	<p>Use clay or make sourdough at home to create your own sculptures.</p>
<p>Design & Technology</p> 	<p>This term, we will be practicing cooking skills such as following a recipe, using scales to weigh, using the bridge and claw method to chop, peeling, coring and baking to create a ratatouille dish with couscous. We will also be developing our cooking skills further by cooking apple crumble. To do this, the children will make their own breadcrumbs by rubbing fat into flour.</p>	<p>Can you practice cooking with your child at home? Perhaps they could practice the bridge and claw method whilst helping you prepare dinner. Talk to them about using cooking equipment safely and the importance of good food hygiene.</p>

<p>RE</p> 	<p>Our first big question for this term is, 'Do people need to go to church to show they are good Christians?' We will start the topic by thinking about how special places make us feel. The children will then learn about Baptism and Holy Communion. They will consider how a church might support a Christian with prayer and worship and if church is the only place a Christian can pray and worship. The children will finish the topic by considering why a place might make them feel a certain way.</p> <p>Our second big question this term is, 'What is the best way for a Muslim to lead a good life?' In this topic, children will learn about Islamic beliefs and worship. The children will consider how Muslims try to lead a good life and reflect on how they try to lead a good life themselves.</p>	<p>Have discussions around your personal beliefs and how they might differ to other religions. Discuss how family and friends mark the significant events of life.</p>
<p>PE</p> 	<p>The children will take part in: athletics, cricket, hockey and Outdoor Adventurous Activities (OAA).</p> <p>Athletics will consist of throwing, jumping and running activities which will help us practise for sports day.</p> <p>In cricket, we will develop and apply a range of skills such as throwing, catching and batting and employ tactics to help us play in game context.</p> <p>In hockey, the children will learn to consistently perform basic hockey skills such as dribbling and push passes. They will develop tactics and apply them in competitive situations. They will develop their speed and endurance during gameplay.</p> <p>Finally, OAA will be focusing on team or group activities, using teamwork with identified roles. They will plan and refine strategies to solve problems, using maps compasses and symbols.</p>	<p>Please ensure that your child remembers to bring their PE kit every Wednesday. We will be outside in all weathers (within reason) so a waterproof jacket or the school hoodie, a water bottle, hat and sun cream are needed.</p>
<p>PSHE</p> 	<p>We will reflect on our enterprise fundraiser for our unit 'What makes us enterprising?'. We will know what enterprise is and ways to raise money. We will think about using individuals' personal strengths and how we can work as a team to help us achieve common goals.</p> <p>In the next unit, the children will answer the question 'How can we keep safe in our local area?'. The children will know what hazards are in our local areas (roads, rivers, trains) and how we can avoid dangers which can arise. Finally, we will discuss what to do when there is an emergency.</p>	<p>Please reiterate to your child about being safe in your local environment especially with the lighter evenings and warmer days arriving.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>In music, Year 4 will continue to develop their singing skills in singing assembly. In class, we will be composing music using five note melodies.</p>	<p>Can you try composing music with five note melodies at home?</p>

<p>Computing</p> 	<p>The children will begin this term by creating their own animations. They will develop an understanding of what an animation is by creating a paper flick book and learn how frames are used to create an animation. They will then have a go at creating their own. Out next topic will be effective searching. In this topic, the children will learn searching skills and be able to assess whether the results are true and reliable. In our final topic, the children will make music. They will use their understanding of pulse, rhythm, tempo and pitch from their music lessons to create a melodic phrase.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to be safe when online – can they tell you what the rules are? Use apps that support their learning. There are lots of amazing free apps and websites!</p>
<p>French</p> 	<p>In French, the unit will be ‘What is the Weather?’. The children will repeat and recognise vocabulary for the weather in French. They will ask and say what the weather is like today and create a French weather map. Finally, they will describe the weather in different regions of France, using a weather map with symbols.</p>	<p>The BBC schools website has some great games, videos and audio clips for lots of the vocabulary and topics we will be covering www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primarylanguages/french</p>
<p>Trips, Experiences and Enrichment</p> 	<p>Enterprise The Great North Museum Hancock</p>	

Within school we have 6 values: **Kindness, Respect, Resilience, Fairness, Teamwork** and **Ambition**.
These are interwoven through our curriculum and everyday practice.