

Curriculum Newsletter

Year Four – Spring Term One



Core Subjects

English

Our English text focus this half term is “Escape from Pompeii” by Christina Balit. The children will consolidate their understanding of verbs, nouns and adjectives to create a range of expanded noun phrases. We will be writing some setting descriptions and then practice editing and improving our sentence structure. We will also be writing some non-fiction by generating brochures.

Maths

Throughout this half term we will be develop knowledge on shape, with a particular focus on acute and obtuse angles and measurements of length. In number, children will enhance their understanding of fractions – counting in hundredths and exploring fraction problem. We will also revisit short multiplication and formal and mental methods for addition and subtraction calculations.

Science

During this half term, the children will be undertaking a unit of work titled [Habitat Helper!](#) During this, they will be learning about what a habitat is, how animals and plants adapt to their habitats. Children will also explore key issues surrounding climate change and human impact on the planet. We will conduct an investigation to explore soil erosion and use our English skills to persuade people to take better care of our planet.

Non-Core Subjects

Project: Blue Abyss – Art/Geography Subject Focus

The aim of this project is to develop colour mixing skills, using shades and tints to show form and create three dimensions.

The children will continue to learn about composition and plan their own still life painting relating to habitats and pollution, applying chosen techniques. Pupils who are secure will be able to:

- Mix tints and shades by adding black or white paint and these then to paint an object in 3D.
 - Confidently describe the difference between a tint and a shade.
 - Produce a clear sketch that reflects the arrangement of their objects.
 - Create a final painting that shows and understanding of how colour can be used to show light and dark and therefore show three dimensions.

Computing

This half term, the children will be learning about programming using software called LOGO. They will learn the basic commands and use their knowledge of them to read and write a code. The children will need to be able to debug their code by looking for and identifying any errors.

Physical Education (PE)

Handball: The children will practise their throwing and catching skills, as well as develop their understanding of creating space and we will introduce shooting.

Gymnastics: The children will develop their understanding and skills in arching and bridging. The unit will consist of some floor work and then applying skills onto apparatus.

Religious Education (RE): Focus: Christianity

This Christianity unit will teach the children about key aspects of the Christian faith. The children will work creatively to enhance their learning experience. They will find out where Christianity originated, about special places linked to Christianity and about key festivals in Christian life. The children will also learn about symbols in Christianity, the Christian holy book and the main beliefs held by Christians.

Spanish

This half term, the children will be learning about the topic of ‘[Fruit](#)’. They will explore and practise the vocabulary used relating to this. They will also recap their core vocabulary about the Months of Year.

Music

During this half term, the children will be undertaking a unit of work looking at Grime/Rap music. All the learning is focused around one song: [Stop!](#) - a rap/song about bullying. Children will learn about the interrelated dimensions of music through games, singing and composing.

We will also be learning the songs ready for the Spring 2 ‘Young Voices’ concert at the O2!

Personal, Social & Health Education (PSHE)

This Money Matters unit aims to promote discussion about money with the children. Children will revise what they have learnt about where money comes from and review the different payment methods available. Learning will also cover what a budget is and how it can help people plan and manage their money if this is a choice they are able to make. All these topics will be based on the understanding that everyone’s financial situation is individual and the different choices and decisions people make about their spending should be viewed with kindness and respect.