

Year 3/4 Summer Term Curriculum Newsletter



Welcome back!

Summer is nearly upon us! Thank you for all your support and hard work so far this year. The children are well rehearsed in our routines, and we are looking forward to a fun and successful final term this year. We have lots of exciting activities ahead this Summer Term. Here are a few details...

English

Reading and writing - The children have really enjoyed getting stuck into our most recent class text - *The Boy Who Biked the World*. We hope the children will be equally excited to read our next text - *The Firework Maker's Daughter* by Phillip Pullman, which links nicely to our Geography: Volcanoes topic in the second half of the summer term. We will use this text as a stimulus to explore descriptive writing and a range of sentence structures. This will culminate in the children writing their own "missing chapter" for the story.

Spelling - Spelling lessons will continue to take place weekly, with the launch of a new spelling rule each week and continued practice each day thereafter. A list of the weekly spellings will be stuck in the children's diary for extra practice at home and they will be tested the following week. Please support the children in learning these spellings at home.

Handwriting - Handwriting practice also continues to take place regularly, with an emphasis on joining letters, along with correct letter formation.

Maths

During the term, the children will continue to develop their understanding of fractions and decimals, before moving on to space, shape, measures, and data handling.

Times tables - As you are aware, it is the expectation by the end of Year 4 that all children know by heart the times table facts up to 12×12 . The Year 4 Multiplication Check will be carried out between 3rd and 14th June. The children have been working very hard to learn all their times tables facts. Please give them an extra push at home so that they feel confident with these by this date. Times Table Rock Stars is a good way to support the children with this.

Individual Reading and Diaries

It is still important that children read aloud at home as much as possible. Reading diaries are monitored regularly and good reading effort at home will be rewarded. As you know reading in class centres on reading our whole class text. This will ensure children experience a wealth of good quality texts, which enhance topics and enrich and extend their vocabulary.

PE Kit

PE lessons take place on a Monday and Thursday and children will need to bring in their kit for these days. On these days, they will be sent home in their kit. As a school, we are aiming to increase children's fitness by taking part in an extra 30 minutes of exercise every week. This takes place on a Wednesday, and we ask that on that day, children come into school wearing their PE kit.

Geography	<p>Volcanoes</p> <p>The children will learn where in the world volcanoes are found before looking at how and why volcanoes erupt. They will explore the positive and negative impact of eruptions on the environment. They will also have the opportunity to explore two volcanic areas in detail and investigate the flora and fauna that inhabit these areas.</p>
History	<p>Anglo-Saxons, Picts and Scots</p> <p>This term, the children will learn all about the people who lived in and migrated to Britain after the Romans left and explore the different tribes, cultures and religions found there. They will also extend their historical vocabulary and deepen their chronological understanding of British history.</p>
Science	<p>Electricity</p> <p>The children will learn about where electricity comes from and how it is used before moving onto electrical safety. They will then look at how to make simple circuits, learning the names of different components and how each of these work. The children will also investigate insulators and conductors and use this knowledge to make a switch.</p>
Computing	<p>Further coding with scratch</p> <p>The children will be learning the basics of programming in Scratch. They will create a simple script, use decomposition, and understand what variables are.</p> <p>Computational thinking</p> <p>The children will be developing the four areas of computational thinking through a range of plugged and unplugged activities.</p> <p>Online Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When being online makes me upset. • Sharing of information
R.E	<p>Does a beautiful world mean a wonderful god?</p> <p>This unit focuses on the exploration of meanings in the creation stories of the Bible. Pupils are encouraged to explore the narratives for themselves, and to respond to some of the big questions about the origins and meanings of life that the stories raise.</p>
Art	<p>Sculpture and 3D: Abstract shape and space.</p> <p>Exploring how shapes and negative spaces can be represented by three dimensional forms. Manipulating a range of materials, children learn ways to join and create free-standing structures inspired by the work of Anthony Caro.</p>

D.T.	<p>Torches The children will explore different types of torches, the materials they are made out of and their varied uses, as well as investigating how torches work by creating simple circuits. After exploring which types of switches and casings are most effective and why, they will then have the opportunity to design, make and evaluate their very own torches.</p>		
Music	<p>The Planets To understand how Gustav Holst uses music to describe the characteristics of the Gods that each planet represents.</p>		
PSHE	<p>Relationships The children will learn about friendship, family and other relationships, conflict resolution and communication, loss and bereavement.</p> <p>Changing me The children will learn about coping positively with change, some changes that occur with the onset of puberty, and environmental and life cycles.</p>		
PE / Games	Fitness	Athletics	Striking and Fielding Skills