

Year 4 Summer Newsletter



Welcome back! We hope you have had a lovely Easter break. This newsletter outlines what we will be learning during the Summer term. If you have any questions, please get in touch!

English: Writing

We are starting the summer term with a focus on recounts and diaries. We will be working on ensuring our sentences are interesting and use a variety of rich vocabulary. We will be linking this topic to our Anglo-Saxon work with a particular focus on the discovery of Sutton Hoo.

Following this, we will then be creating **Kenning poems** to further support our Anglo Saxon topic. These are riddle type poems originating from this era.

Throughout all our topics we will continue to practise all the grammar and punctuation features for Year 4, and try to use them correctly in our different genres of writing. As always, it is an expectation that we check our spelling and punctuation carefully before we hand in work so that it is our best effort. To meet the expected standard in Year 4, basic punctuation must be accurate.

Upcoming trips:

- Monday 28th April: Murton Park
- Wednesday 11th June: Ilkley Tennis Club (more details on this to follow).

Our class story is currently 'Agents of the Wild: Operation Honeyhunt' by Jennifer Bell and Alice Lickens.



English: Reading

We will continue to **read daily**; this will be as a whole class, as a small guided reading group or individually. There will also be an opportunity for children to read for pleasure a book of their choosing – this can be from our class or school library or from home if they wish. We enjoy listening to a class story together as a lovely way to end our day.

We know that many of our children are avid readers which is brilliant – the more they read, the more confident they will be with their writing too. Even the most competent readers still hugely benefit from **discussing the text** after they read (perhaps with a focus of one or two pages of their book). We encourage children to read to an adult at home **3 times a week**; please record any home reading in your child's reading record. Children can also record their own reading. Thank you.

English: Spelling

Spellings are set every **Monday**. The expectation is that four games are completed on Spelling Shed unless we have agreed otherwise.

We practise the 109 Year 3/4 tricky word list every morning (which is separate to our spelling lessons) as our morning word work. The next time we are tested on these words, we will bring home a personalised record of our progress mastering these.

In **RE** we will move on from our learning about Holy week and Easter, and begin to explore the Christian festival of Pentecost and its meaning for Christians around the world.

We will then finish the year learning about origins of Sikhism, learning about the 10 Sikh Gurus and exploring why they are at the heart of Sikh beliefs.

Maths

We are building on our knowledge of fractions and expanding this to include decimals. We will:

- recognise and write decimal equivalents of tenths and hundredths
- counting up and down in tenths and hundredths
- recognise and write decimal equivalents to a quarter, half and three quarters
- divide a one or two digit number by 10 and 100 to create tenths and hundredths
- rounding decimals with one decimal place to the nearest whole number
- solving simple measure and money problems involving fractions and decimals

Other areas of maths we will be learning about are:

Geometry

- describe positions on a 2D grid as coordinates
- describe movements between positions as translations up/down and left/right
- plotting specific points on a grid to complete a polygon

Money

- ordering, estimating and problem solving with money
- converting pounds and pence

Time

- converting analogue time to digital time, and using the 12 and 24 hour clocks. Any opportunities to reinforce this learning at home would be much appreciated!

Multiplication Tables Check

After half term, all Year 4 children will take a statutory online Multiplication Tables Check where they are assessed on their times table knowledge. This test is in the same format as the 'Soundcheck' on TTRockstars. We will be doing lots of practice in class this half term to prepare, but any additional revision at home would be very beneficial. More information on the test can be found following this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-table-check-information-for-parents>

Science

This half term, we have two topics running in parallel - **Sound** with Mrs Lewis and **Electricity** with Mrs Lawrenson.

In 'sound' we will:

- identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating
- recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear
- find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it
- find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it

In 'electricity', we will:

- identify common appliances that run on electricity
- construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts
- identify whether or not a lamp will light in a simple series circuit, based on whether or not the lamp is part of a complete loop with a battery
- recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit and associate this with whether or not a lamp lights in a simple series circuit
- recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.

After half term, we will be looking at **Animals including humans**.

Here we will be learning about how to take care of our teeth and how the digestive system works.

This term, **French** will be taught by Mrs Lawrenson and our topics are **En classe** (about our classroom/school) and **Au salon de thé** (a tearoom).

Geography / History

We have a History focus this term with our topic **Anglo Saxons and Vikings**. We will be looking at a variety of elements under these two main themes:

- Britain's settlement by Anglo-Saxons
- the Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England to the time of Edward the Confessor

In particular, we will be exploring life in Anglo Saxon Britain, why they left their home countries and how their invasion was possible. We will study village life, the organisation of the seven kingdoms and Anglo Saxon culture.

We will then look at how the **Viking** invasions link into the Anglo Saxon timeline with a power struggle for control of England. We will learn about Alfred the Great, the conversion to Christianity and the development of England as one country for the first time.

Music

Our focus this term is our whole class instrumental teaching of the recorder. We will be working in smaller group sizes to learn how to play the recorder, and reading musical notation of pitch and timing. This will involve a bit of practising at home, please encourage your child to do this, however noisy!



Computing

This term we will be answering the question, 'How to write efficient programs using Scratch'. We will begin by looking at algorithms and how to break them down, and we will use repetition to make our programs more efficient. After half term, we will further our programming in Scratch by looking at 'How to use interaction in a programme to tell stories.'

In **Art** this term, we will be exploring and experimenting with pastels as we study the landscapes of Valerie McKeehan. We aim to experiment in creating mood and feelings with colour and texture; sketch lightly to avoid using a rubber; use sketches to produce a final piece of art and make notes of how artists have used pattern, colour, texture, tone, shape, space, form and line.



This term, DT is taught by Mrs Lawrenson. The children will use their knowledge from their electricity topic to make an exciting board game!

PSHE

This term, we will focus on **Democracy** and learn about Britain as a **democratic society**, understanding that there are different political parties who differ in their views and that people can be influenced in elections. We will explore **how and why laws are made** and the importance of following them. Finally, we will learn about our **local council** and how there are often limited resources for the needs of the community; people may have different views about how the money should be spent.

PE For this half term, PE continues on a **Wednesday** with Mr Wilce and on a **Monday** with Mrs Lewis. Please can your child continue to come to school in their PE kit on these days. Thank you.