

Curriculum Newsletter

CLASS / YEAR GROUP: Year 4

TERM / HALF TERM: Autumn 1

OUR LEARNING THIS HALF TERM

A short, parent-friendly overview of the knowledge, skills and experiences children will develop.

Reading

What we are learning this half term...

This half term in Reading, we will be exploring a range of non-chronological reports and developing our understanding of their features and structure. Children will use their knowledge of etymology and morphology to investigate unfamiliar vocabulary, helping them to build word knowledge, improve comprehension and become more confident readers of non-fiction texts.

Writing

What we are learning this half term...

This half term in Writing, we will begin with our Fundamentals unit, using Grammarsaurus lessons to develop key grammar, punctuation and sentence-writing skills. Children will then apply these skills by creating an engaging non-chronological report linked to Dragonology, where they will research and write about different types of dragons and their fascinating features.

Maths

What we are learning this half term...

This half term in Maths, we will be developing our understanding of place value, including reading, writing, ordering and comparing numbers. Children will also build confidence with addition and subtraction, using a range of mental and written methods to solve calculations and real-life problems.

Science

What we are learning this half term...

This half term in Science, we will be learning about living things and how they can be grouped in different ways. Children will explore how scientists classify animals and plants based on their characteristics and investigate similarities and differences between living things. We will also learn about habitats and how living things are adapted to survive in their environments.

History

What we are learning this half term...

This half term in History, we will be learning about the Ancient Maya civilisation. Children will explore where the Maya lived, how they lived their daily lives, and the achievements they are remembered for. We will also investigate why the Maya civilisation was significant and compare aspects of their society with other ancient civilisations.

Geography

Geography learning will begin after the October half term.
We can't wait to get started!

Art & Design

What we are learning this half term...

This half term in Art, we will be exploring the work of Yayoi Kusama, focusing on her use of repeated patterns, bold colours and iconic polka dots. Inspired by her artwork, children will design and create their own clay pumpkin sculptures, carefully adding texture and decorative patterns to reflect Kusama's unique artistic style.

Music

What we are learning this half term...

This half term in Music, children will begin learning to play the flute, developing their confidence with posture, breathing and basic playing techniques. They will learn how to produce clear notes, follow simple rhythms and perform short pieces, building their musical skills and enjoyment of playing an instrument.

RE / Religion & Worldviews

What we are learning this half term...

This half term in RE, we will be exploring the big question: What do we mean by truth? Children will consider how people decide what is true, why different people may hold different beliefs, and how truth is understood within different religions and worldviews. Through discussion and reflection, pupils will develop their own ideas while learning to respect the views of others.

PE

What we are learning this half term...

This half term in PE, we will be developing our teamwork and problem-solving skills through Outdoor Adventurous Activities (OAA). Children will work collaboratively to complete challenges, improve their communication skills and build resilience while learning the importance of trust, cooperation and effective teamwork.

PSHE

What we are learning this half term...

This half term in PSHE, we will be learning about My Healthy Self and exploring how to make positive choices for our physical and mental wellbeing. Children will learn about healthy lifestyles, including nutrition, exercise, sleep and emotional health, and develop strategies to help them make safe and responsible decisions in everyday life.

Computing / DT / MFL:

What we are learning this half term...

This half term in German, children will learn the basics of the language, including simple greetings, introductions and everyday vocabulary. They will practise speaking, listening and responding to familiar words and phrases, helping them to build confidence and develop an understanding of another language and culture. This half term in Computing, we will be focusing on computing fundamentals, developing our understanding of how computers work and how to use technology safely and effectively. Children will build their digital skills through a range of practical activities, learning about key computing concepts, problem-solving and responsible use of technology.

HOW FAMILIES CAN SUPPORT AT HOME

Families can support Year 4 children by encouraging them to read for 10-15 minutes each day and practise their times tables regularly using quick-fire recall activities or online platforms such as Mathsframe.

Children should also complete their weekly homework using either their homework book or LBQ to help reinforce the learning taking place in class.