

Year 4 Curriculum Overview

2023-24 Summer 1

English

In English, we are investigating explanatory texts and looking at explanations of how things work. We will be writing our own explanations using an impersonal style. We will practise writing in more complex sentences using a greater variety of adverbs to express time, place and cause, (e.g. then, next, soon, therefore). In our reading, we will focus on checking that the text read makes sense, discussing our understanding, and deducing the meaning of unknown words from the context of the text. You could help your child at home by sharing and discussing examples of explanations.

Maths

In maths, we are looking at decimal tenths and hundredths. We will understand the concept of decimal numbers and recognise and write common decimal equivalences, including those for one-half, one quarter and three quarters. We will also be preparing for our Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). You could help your child at home by continuing to practise their instant recall of multiplication facts up to 12 X 12.

Music

In music, we will be learning how to play the descant recorder. We will also learn to read standard musical notation. You could help your child at home by helping them to practise their recorder, if they have one.

Design and Technology

In D&T, we will understand and use mechanical systems to design and produce a buggy. We will understand and use electrical systems, including circuits, in our buggies. You could help your child at home by finding out about real-life examples of mechanical systems which operate using electrical circuits.

Science

In science, we are investigating living things and their habitats. We will discuss differences between living and non-living things and identify the seven life process. We are investigating, constructing and interpreting a variety of food chains and webs, identifying producers, predators and prey. We will recognise how and why environments can change and recognise that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things. You could help your child at home by identifying ways in which they could be more environmentally friendly.

Art

In art lessons, we will be investigating book illustrations and will be creating our own alternative book illustrations for given books. You could help your child at home by sharing and discussing different illustrations in books.

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

In French, we will be recapping some of our learning from across Year Four. We will know how to say the seven days of the week, the twelve months of the year and we will be able to recall all numbers up to 31 so that we can confidently write the date in French, e.g. mardi le neuf avril. You could help your child at home by using the 'Language Angels' website.

Computing

In computing lessons, we are editing digital photographs. We are learning how to use an online photo editor and using this to create a 'spot the difference' game. You could help your child at home by helping them to navigate Google Classroom with greater independence.

Topic (History/Geography)

In topic, we are investigating the Roman Empire and its impact on Britain. We will be finding out key facts about the Romans including invasions of Britain and the Celtic resistance to this. We will understand the impact of Roman technology, culture and beliefs on Britain today. You could help your child at home by visiting and/or finding out about important historical Roman sites that can be found in England today.

Physical Education (PE)

In PE, we are taking part in athletics and batting games. We will learn a variety of athletic techniques including javelin throwing, sprinting and long jump, and practise these ready for Sports Day. We will develop flexibility, strength, techniques and balance through athletics. In games, we will develop good throwing and batting techniques whilst engaging in batting games such as cricket and rounders. You could help your child at home by continuing to encourage them to complete the Government's recommended sixty minutes of exercise per day.

Religious Education (RE)

In RE, we will be studying a unit of work entitled 'Thinking about God.' We will identify some of the ways in which religions name and describe attributes of God and make links with beliefs and practise. You could help your child at home by discussing special titles some people have (e.g. Duke, Sir, Captain, Doctor) and why some people have certain titles before their names.

Health and Relationships Education (HRE)

We will be continuing to study HRE at assembly times and as part of lessons. We will be working on the myHappyMind programme to support our mental and emotional health. We will be undertaking two modules, 'Celebrate' and 'Appreciate.' You could help your child at home by using the myHappyMind app.