'Let your light shine'

Matthew 5.16

Class 4 (Autumn 2) Curriculum Newsletter

English

In reading we will be working on our fluency and comprehension skills with a wide range of texts, especially our retrieval skills for finding facts in the text. Children will get a home-school reading book, which they should take home and bring to school each day. They will also have 'reading for pleasure' books in the classroom, access to books from our library, as well as a class novel that we read together.

In writing this half term we will focus on our narrative writing skills. We will think about developing atmospheres, characterisation and controlling pace. We will also work on our skill of interweaving dialogue into our narratives.

Mathematics

In Maths this half-term, we will begin by developing our skills of short and long division, including how to deal with and interpret remainders. As our fluency develops, we will apply our methods to solving problems. As the term progresses, we will move on to working with fractions. This will include manipulating fractions to create equivalents, so we can compare and order fractions, as well as add and subtract fractions. We will also learn how to multiply and divide with fractions, as well as find fractions of amounts.

RE

Our unit of study in RE this half-term is the question: **'Why is pilgrimage important to some believers?'**
During the term, children will learn about what makes places special and sacred to believers and why they might make special journeys there. We will look in more detail at some Christian and Muslim pilgrimages, comparing and contrasting the physical and spiritual experiences. Finally, we will consider the value of pilgrimage and evaluate its importance in the modern world.

Spanish

We will follow the 'Jolie Ronde' curriculum for teaching Spanish which this half term focuses on learning about classroom routines, clothes vocabulary, family members and occupations. We will learn to use adjectives and quantifiers and how to express opinions too.

Music

This term we will be learning about 'pulse & rhythm'. We will use musical notation and explore different musical structures, layering rhythms and patterns in our performances.

PE

We will have two PE lessons per week. Our first will focus on gymnastics, including: rolls, balances, jumps, inverted movements and flight. In our second session we will be developing our tennis skills, including: forehand, backhand and volley strokes; and developing tactical play in game situations with a partner.
PE Days: Monday & Friday

Science

In Science we are learning about **properties of materials.** We will Compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties. Also, we will give reasons, based on evidence from comparative and fair tests, for the particular uses of everyday materials, including metals, wood, and plastic

History

In History, we will be learning about the Shang Dynasty of ancient China. We will learn when and where the Shang Dynasty existed; what life was like; the beliefs and achievements of the Shang Dynasty; and its legacy. Throughout, we will develop our historical enquiry skills.

PSHE

Our focus this half-term will be **Identity, Society & Equality – Human Rights.** We will consider migration, refugees, UN Convention on Human Rights, and homelessness. Later in the half-term, we will focus on body-image and self-image, both online and offline.

DT

In Art this half-term we will be learning about how cams are used in mechanical systems to turn rotary motion into linear motion. We will put our knowledge into use by designing and making a children's toy that includes moving, cam-driven components.

Computing

This unit will focus on **text-based programming.** We will learn about programming languages that are used to create games, apps and websites. We will also learn that there are different programming languages for different purposes, such as Javascript for interactive features and Logo.

Class 4

Ways to help your child at home

We welcome and encourage children to continue their learning beyond school and share their achievements with us. We have consciously decided not to publish or set homework sheets, however we would like all children to complete these key weekly tasks and activities.



Daily Reading

Developing a love or reading and learning to read are directly linked to children's success at school and beyond. Reading daily with and to your child is the single most important thing you can do to help them with their learning. Please sign their reading record so we know that your child has read at home and that they are ready to have their books changed.

Read Write Inc. Spelling

Children will work through the age appropriate spelling patterns in their Read, Write, Inc. spelling book in school. They will also bring home a copy of the 'Statutory Spelling List' – practising these at home is very beneficial.

KIRFs

Key Instant Recall Facts

KIRF practise will help your child to learn by heart, key facts and information which they need to have instant recall of. KIRFs are designed to support the development of mental maths skills that underpin much of the maths work in our school. Your child's KIRFs for this half term can be found below.



Times Table Rockstars

Being able to confidently recall times table facts helps children in all areas of Maths, including problem solving. Daily practise on TT Rockstars will your child to improve their times table recall and speed.



1 Minute Maths

This is a fantastic app, (particularly suited to Year R-3) which helps children to build number confidence and fluency through 1-minute tasks. The app gives instant feedback, with a 'hints' button which rephrases the question if children need a little extra support.



Hit the Button

Hit the Button is an interactive maths game with quick fire questions on number bonds, times tables, doubling and halving, multiples, division facts and square numbers. The games, which are against the clock, challenge and develop mental maths skills. An untimed, practise mode is available within the app.

Key Vocabulary

Autumn 2 2026

Science

Properties & Changes of Materials

Solubility/ Electrical conductivity/ Thermal conductivity/ New material/ Buoyancy/ suspension/ Dissolve/ Solution/ Soluble/ Insoluble/ Solute/ Solvent/ burning/ Rusting/ Gas given off/ Mixture/ Filtering/ Sieving/ Reversible change/ Irreversible change/ Hard to reverse/ Combustion/ Oxidisation/ Chemical reaction/ Residue/ Filtrate

History

Ancient Shang Dynasty

Civilization, dynasty, hierarchy, archaeology, artefact, evidence, interpretation, ritual, ancestor, divination, Shang, oracle bone, bronze casting, Yellow River, chariot, tomb, inscription, noble, Zhou.

DT

Mechanical Systems - Cams

cam, snail cam, off-centre cam, peg cam, pear shaped cam follower, axle, shaft, crank, handle, housing, framework rotation, rotary motion, oscillating motion, reciprocating motion annotated sketches, exploded diagrams mechanical system, input movement, process, output movement design decisions, functionality, innovation, authentic, user, purpose, design specification, design brief.

Religious Education

Why is pilgrimage important to some believers?

Pilgrimage, pilgrim, journey, sacred, holy, spiritual, spirituality, faith, prayer, commitment, Ummah, Hajj, Mecca, Ka'bah, 5-Pillars, community, Lourdes, shrine, reflection, repentance, remembrance, sacrifice.

Year 6 'KIRFs' - Autumn Term 2

Identify common, fraction, decimal and percentage equivalents

FRACTION	DECIMAL	PERCENTAGE
1	1.0	100%
$\frac{1}{2}$	0.5	50%
$\frac{1}{4}$	0.25	25%
$\frac{3}{4}$	0.75	75%
$\frac{1}{3}$	0.33	33.3%
$\frac{2}{3}$	0.66	66.6%
$\frac{1}{5}$	0.2	20%
$\frac{1}{8}$	0.125	12.5%
$\frac{1}{10}$	0.1	10%
$\frac{1}{100}$	0.01	1%

TOP TIPS

The secret to success is practising little and often – use spare bits of time wisely. Can you practice your KIRFs while walking to school or during a car journey? You don't need to practice them all at once, you could have a fact of the day. If you would like more ideas, please speak to your child's teacher.