

Year 4 Autumn 1 Curriculum Newsletter



Welcome back to school, and to Year 4. We hope that you had a relaxing summer and are ready for a busy year ahead.

	Key knowledge and vocabulary	Suggested home activities	Subject Teacher
English & Grammar	<p>This term's work will revolve around Geraldine McCaughrean's adaptation of <i>The Odyssey</i>, the epic poem narrating Odysseus' adventures as he returns home and regains his kingdom after the Trojan War. Considerable time will be given to reading and enjoying the story as a class, expanding children's vocabulary and developing their reading fluency as we do so. We shall also work on improving children's analytical writing, through in-depth study of characterisation, and their creative writing, by writing speeches that Odysseus himself might have delivered to recount his exploits.</p> <p><u>Key vocabulary:</u> yearn, pious, triumph, Odysseus, cunning, luscious.</p>	Children could research the background to the story, including the Trojan War.	Miss Steafel – English Miss Steafel – 4 Red Grammar Miss Staff – 4 Blue Grammar
Mathematics	<p>The pupils will reason with 4-digit numbers. They will solve number and practical problems with increasingly large numbers; identify, represent and estimate using different representations. Next, the class will calculate and estimate numbers with up to 4 digits using formal written methods; solve two-step problems, deciding on appropriate methods.</p> <p><u>Key vocabulary:</u> represent, estimate, derive, strategy, inequalities, greater than, less than, rounding, thousands, hundreds, tens, ones.</p>	Explore Mathletics and Nrich.com together.	Miss Linehan
Ancient History	<p>This year, children study Ancient Greece, the civilisation that flourished from c. 2,000 BC – 146 BC. During Term 1, children study the Minoans, a Bronze Age civilisation who lived on Crete, and the Mycenaeans, another Bronze Age civilisation who lived on mainland Greece. Then, children learn about how the art of writing was lost during the Dark Ages,</p>		Mr Wright

	the time when Homer’s epic poetry was composed orally.		
British History	<p>This term in British History, students will be learning all about Edward I’s conquest of Wales. Here, students will begin to understand how the separate nations of the UK began to merge into one single entity. They will also learn about the Prince of Wales, Llewelyn, who did everything within his power to resist his English conquerors.</p> <p><u>Key Vocabulary:</u> Fortress, Homage, Coronation, Consolidate, Consent, Taxes.</p>	Search through the archives of BBC Bitesize to find videos and articles related to British History.	Mr Desai
Science	<p>This term students will focus their studies on materials and their properties (chemistry). In this unit, children will build on their knowledge of particle theory from Y3 focussing on atoms, molecules, elements and compounds. Students will look at the changing state of matter – solid, liquid and gas. We will apply this learning to the water cycle.</p> <p><u>Key vocabulary:</u> evaporate, condense, melt, freeze, respire, reproduce, photosynthesise, germinate, disperse.</p>	Study different materials in your home. Can you find any examples of changing states of matter that take place in your home?	Mr Hodgkinson
Geography	<p>In geography, in Year 4, students study from the book titled, ‘Geography of the UK’. Students will focus their studies on the geography of the UK building up their knowledge of England, Scotland Wales and Northern Ireland.</p> <p>This term we will begin by researching the location of the United Kingdom and we will use maps and globes to aid learning. Towards the end of the term, we will be researching the different seasons in the UK.</p> <p><u>Key vocabulary:</u> archipeleago, island, peninsula, mainland, causeway, glen, valley, plateau, moor.</p>	Read a map and study the four countries of the UK in detail. Where are the capital cities located? What famous landmarks are in each country? Which is the longest river in the UK?	Mr Hodgkinson
Art	The children will study ‘The Benin Mask’. They will learn about the history of the Benin mask. who would of worn this, what it was used for and why it was created. Children will then create their own mask designs; which will be created using 3D cardboard relief.		Miss Linehan

	<p>They will consider how to add texture to their work through the manipulation of the cardboard.</p> <p>Key vocabulary: Benin, mask, 3D, relief, ceremonies, design, layering, texture, Oba.</p>		
Music	<p>This term the children will sing Seasonal songs, songs to develop musical understanding of Pitch and Duration, and use classroom instruments to help this. Listening will be appropriate to what they are learning; Music Notation: lines and spaces of the Treble Clef (FACE/EGBDF); Class Concerts.</p> <p>Topic – Space in Music</p>		Mr Appleby
PE	<p>This term's focus will be football. Year 4 will be working on improving passing accuracy, shooting fundamentals, recognise how to exploit space with and without the ball, change of speed and direction. All skills will be applied with fun games.</p> <p><u>Key vocabulary:</u> throw-in, pass, header, goal, goalkeeper, defence, midfielder, attacker, referee shooting</p>	<p>Take some time out of your day and practice the sport of your choice to help you stay fit and healthy</p>	Mr Adom
Latin	<p>In Year 4, your child will have two Latin lessons each week, building upon their introduction to Latin last year. Children at Millbank study Latin both for its own sake and because it helps to improve their confidence and precision in using the English language. Studying Latin grammar strengthens their grasp of English grammar, and developing a wide Latin vocabulary helps them to understand the vast number of English words derived from Latin. We will be studying from a specially-written series of workbooks that make explicit the links between Latin and English, and that allow them quickly to reach a level where they can translate stories and narratives from topics and civilisations they have encountered in their history lessons. This term, we shall consolidate our knowledge of Latin verb endings, nouns and conjunctions before studying how the Latin languages uses suffixes to show the functions of nouns in sentences.</p> <p><u>English vocabulary:</u> chant, clamour, dominant, intrepid, regal, sacrifice, servile, spectacle.</p>	<p>Your children will be set short lists of words to learn at home. Please test them on these words regularly and encourage them to consolidate them often.</p>	Ms Soussa

Physical Education

Red class has PE on a Monday and Thursday.

Blue class has PE on a Tuesday and a Thursday.

On the days that your child has PE, they must come in wearing their PE clothes and cannot get changed at school.

Homework information

Maths

Daily Maths homework should be completed each evening and will be marked in class by students, with the teacher. This homework should take no more than 15 minutes.

Weekly maths Students will be given **homework for Maths on Fridays, to be handed in every Wednesday.**

English

English homework is given daily and is to be completed for the following day. The English teacher reviews the homework in class and so it is important that the homework be completed on time. A booklet with this term's homework has been written by the Trust and has been given to all Year 4 children. It is essential that this booklet be looked after carefully.

Spellings

Spellings are given out at the beginning of the term and tests are each Tuesday.

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