



KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year 4

Autumn 2nd Half Term: November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

We hope that you have had a lovely half term break. We are very happy to be welcoming the children back to school for Autumn Two.

Last term, the children settled back into school life beautifully and we are so very proud of them. Our recovery ethos activities included lots of opportunities for discussion, art work and class-bonding, which we feel helped their transition back to school.

The table below provides a brief overview of the learning opportunities that the children will have across all subjects. Later in the half term, we will carry out a variety of activities linked to celebrating Christmas.

Subjects	Focus of Learning
English	This half term KS2 will be focusing on the key text 'Romeo and Juliet'. The children will learn the story through a variety of activities (reading, discussion, drama). We will look at the characters and themes of the story and also find out a little more about Shakespeare. The children will be writing newspaper reports about the feuding Montague and Capulet families, creating story maps and writing their own mini play scripts; to create alternative endings to this tragic story. We will also be doing some topical writing around 'autumn'. Children will also be having weekly grammar and handwriting focused sessions throughout this half term.
Reading	Although our focused text is Romeo and Juliet, the children will also be having weekly comprehension sessions where we are aiming to give clear and specific answers using the questions given and information in the text. Children will be improving their skim reading skills and justifying answers given. We will also be focusing on reading and spelling our Year 3/4 key words.
Maths	We will start the term with some work on doubling and halving, followed by revision and consolidation of fractions (fractions of amounts, equivalent fractions, counting in fractions). As mentioned before the holiday, we will also be looking at telling the time and time intervals. Later in the half term we will focus on decimals, converting measures (g/kg and ml/l) and finish with some work on rounding to 10, 100 and 1000. We will continue to have our weekly arithmetic and times tables focused sessions.
Science	This unit is entitled 'Where does all that food go?' The children will build on knowledge of the human body that they developed in Key Stage 1 and also during the Amazing Bodies unit in Year 3. The children will learn about the human digestive system and be introduced to the main body parts associated with the system. They will learn that the role of the digestive system is to break down the food we eat so that the nutrients, energy and other requirements we derive from it can be used in the rest of the body. They will learn about how food can be broken down through mechanical and chemical processes. They will learn in more detail about the roles of the different types of teeth in breaking food down, and how to care for their teeth.
R.E.	In RE Year 4 will be thinking about 'Incarnation and God'. We will be looking at different accounts of Jesus' birth and thinking about how and why they differ. We will be using our knowledge to create relevant and new verses to a well know Christmas Carol. We will be sharing thoughts and ideas about how and why Christians celebrate Christmas in different ways and we will be making connections between differing ideas about God.
Computing	In Computing the children will be getting creative and designing their own word maps linked to our literacy focus text. We will also begin to look at animation and recreate some mini scenes from Romeo and Juliet.
Geography	Last half term we began looking at South America and we will continue with this topic this half term. We will be looking at various maps, thinking about location, time zones and climate. We will compare and contrast countries within South America to England. We will look at Brazil and find out what is so special about Rio De Janeiro. The children will have the opportunity to design some exciting carnival costumes and masks.

Art - DT	As mentioned above, we will be linking some of our art and design work to our Geography topic, designing, creating and evaluating carnival costumes/masks. We will also be making some links to our literacy work, designing family crests.
Autumn Focus	Part way through the half term, Y4 will be having a focus week based around Autumn. During this week we will look at objectives and activities which the children would have carried out as part of their Year 4 school journey, which sadly could not take place this year during to current Covid 19 restrictions. Although the Lincolnsfield's residential could not take place, we feel it's important for the Y4 children to still have this special opportunity to develop team building skills, look at nature and explore our local environment in Autumn. We will make use of our beautiful park next door for much of this focus week – more details to follow.

Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be set on Google Classroom. It will consist of a weekly piece of home-learning, linked to class objectives and weekly spelling lists. It will be set on a **Thursday** and needs to be completed and turned in by **the following Tuesday**. We have provided the children with a 'Home Learning' exercise book, which the children can record their home learning in if they wish. A photo can be taken of the learning and then uploaded and submitted to Google Classroom. Home learning exercise books must continue to be kept at home. In addition to these home learning tasks, we recommend that children also engage with RM Easi-Maths and TT Rockstars on a regular basis. Please let a member of the Year 4 team know, if you need any help accessing these platforms

Reading

One of the most important ways in which you can support your child's learning is to ensure that they engage with 10-15 minutes reading every day. It is really helpful if you can take some time to read with your child and ask questions about what they have read. This will help to support their developing comprehension skills. It is also beneficial to read aloud to your children. The children are reading Accelerated Reading books within school each day and have the opportunity to take mini comprehension quizzes linked to texts they read. School books will not be sent home at this time but do please keep reading. When a child has completed a text at home, they are welcome to bring the book in to school and complete an accelerated reader quiz for this book (if there is one on the system).

PE

We will be having PE sessions on **Monday** and **Friday**. As part of our control measures, we do not want children to change in the classroom so on **these days children should continue to come in to school wearing their PE kit**. This should consist of their school polo top or school PE t-shirt, jogging bottoms and top and trainers (not plimsolls, due to possible wet weather).

Additional layers

As mentioned in the recent newsletters, the weather is very changeable. Please ensure children have a waterproof jacket in school every day and additional layers if they are needed. Children could wear vests or tea-shirts under their polo shirts and bring an additional cardigan/hoodie/jumper to go over or under school jumpers. Gloves and scarfs may prove useful as we continue to spend time outside as part of our infection control measures.

Pencil Cases

As part of our risk assessment and control measures, we are continuing to ask that children in Y2 to Y6 bring in their own pencil case to limit children needing to share resources. **Please ask your child to let you know if anything has run out so that you can replace it**, e.g. glue sticks and handwriting pens will need to be replaced at some point.

Pencil cases should:

- not go between home and school; they should remain in the classroom.
- be made of a 'wipeable' material e.g. plastic or metal – nothing made of fabric.
- contain a pencil, eraser, sharpener (preferably one that collects pencil sharpenings), small ruler, handwriting pen, red pen, glue stick and some colouring pencils.

School Bags

School bags should not be brought to school at all. Children will not be transporting home learning folders or pencil cases and should they need to bring anything on site e.g. a reading book or activity for early arrival in the Hall in the morning, they should **use a named plastic bag**.

Packed Lunches

If your child brings a packed lunch to school, please bring it in a plastic bag for ease of cleaning and storage on pegs.

If you have any questions, please contact the class team via the School Office email. Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Jennifer Harris
Y4 Class Teacher

Mrs Kika Chapman
Y4 Teaching Assistant