

KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year 4

Autumn 1st Half Term: September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to wish all of the children a very warm welcome back to school and into Year 4. We hope that you had an enjoyable and relaxing summer break.

Please refer to the table below, for a brief overview of the learning experiences that the children will have in each subject, during this half term.

Subjects	Focus of Learning
English	We will be looking at the story "The Iron Man" by Ted Hughes. We will discuss his use of descriptive language and practise using a range of writing techniques to write our own descriptive pieces such as menus. We will be writing our own ending for the story and writing non-chronological reports about the Iron Man. We will also be looking at "Escape From Pompeii" by Christina Balit and doing some work involving poetry and drama which will tie in with our history topic.
Reading	We will be building our reading skills when we access our new texts by clarifying new vocabulary using dictionaries, writing chapter summaries of our class texts and making inferences and predictions about a range of texts in all our subjects.
Maths	We will be working on finding difference using subtraction and recapping numbers that make 100. We will look at place value in 4-digit numbers and using column addition and subtraction with 3-digit numbers. We will be telling the time to one minute and recapping our understanding of measurement. We will also look at multiplication and division facts for the 6- and 9-times tables.
Science	Our Science Topic in Y4 is entitled 'Switched On'. In this module they will identify electrical appliances, distinguishing between those which are powered by mains and battery (including those with integral rechargeable batteries) and recognising that electricity can be used to produce light, sound, heat and movement. They will explore the production of light, sound and movement by making simple series circuits with cells, wires, bulbs, buzzers and motors, learning the names of the components. Throughout this module they will learn the safe use of electrical components and the dangers of mains electricity.
Computing	We will be looking at E-Safety, understanding the concept of spam mail and malware and how to navigate these safely.
History	In this topic the children will gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world by knowing about the Roman Empire and its impact on Britain. We will look at historical concepts and terms such as civilisation and empire and challenge ourselves to ask questions and think critically. In October we will also be having a focus week on Inspirational People in Black History.

PHSCE	We will be thinking about our class as a team and how we are school citizens. We will think about our rights and responsibilities and the concept of democracy. We will discuss how to make rules and decisions as a group and take ownership of the decisions we make.
Art	We will be looking at Roman Mosaics, discussing how they are made and how the shapes work together. We will design and make our own mosaic.
RE	We will be looking at Sikhism and discussing the question "Does joining the Khalsa make a person a better Sikh?". We will learn about the 5 Ks and their significance. We will also be discussing the concept of commitment and what it means to us.
Music	We will be looking at the song "Mamma Mia" by Abba, using vocal warmups to warm up our voices and playing games to help us understand different aspects of the song.

Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be set on Google Classroom. It will consist of an English and Maths based activity each week, either to be completed on paper and uploaded as a photo or completed on the computer. It will be set on a **Thursday** and needs to be completed and turned in by **Wednesday**. We will provide 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 are 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 discuss what they have read. Whilst reading, it would be great if you could encourage your child to make **predictions** and **ask questions** about the text. Try to help them identify and **clarify** words or phrases that they are unsure about and encourage them to **summarise** a paragraph or page that they have just read. This will help to support their developing comprehension skills. It is also beneficial to read aloud to your children. When your child finishes reading a book, they will have the opportunity to complete an Accelerated Reader quiz at school. The children will keep a reading record (paper copy) in school, on which they will record the book titles they are reading, a brief comment and any 'Accelerated Reader' quiz scores that they achieve.

P.E.

We will be having a coached PE session on Tuesdays. The class will also have PE on a Wednesday. On these days, children will need to **come in to school wearing their PE kit**. This should consist of their school PE t-shirt, jogging bottoms/PE shorts and trainers (not plimsolls, due to possible wet weather).

What will my child need in school?

- **Named** school jumper/cardigan/coat
- Named water bottle (water fountains are still not in use)
- Children won't need a school bag as they are no longer bringing PE kits/home learning folders to and from school. Children may use a plastic bag if they'd like to bring anything in.
- Children can bring in school book bags if they have them.
- Your child will need a plastic/metal pencil case containing pencils, handwriting pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils, small glue stick.



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- Small packet of tissues, and we also ask for any donations of larger tissue boxes for the classroom.
- Children having packed lunch – continue to use a plastic bag rather than a lunch box please.

We are very much looking forward to working with you over the course of the next academic year. If you have any questions, please contact the class team via the School Office email.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Miss Olivia Simkin
Mrs Kika Chapman
Mrs Maria Botfield
Miss Jo Yianakki