



KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year 4

Autumn 2nd Half Term: November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope the children have had an enjoyable half term break. We are so pleased with how they have settled into Year 4 and are looking forward to the weeks ahead. Later in the half term, the children will take part in a variety of Christmas activities.

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 "Macbeth" by William Shakespeare. We will have a drama workshop to explore the text and we will be using it as the basis for our writing. We will be writing diary entries, newspaper reports and an alternative ending. Continue to practise key grammar such as tense agreement, direct speech, fronted adverbials and conjunctions. We will also be writing poetry based around Christmas using descriptive language.
Reading	We will be looking at comprehension and discussing what questions we could ask and answer about a story. We will think about predictions we could make and how to summarise. We will also think about questions we are asked about the story and what information a question is looking for.
Maths	We will find out how to double and halve 3-digit numbers and recap our knowledge of place value. We will use this to discuss rounding and also how to multiply a 3-digit number by a single digit number. We will be looking at fractions and how to reduce them to their simplest form. We will be looking at weight and capacity and how to convert measurements.
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 their 'Amazing Bodies' unit in Year 3. The children will learn about the human digestive system and will 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 also learn in more detail about the roles of the different types of teeth in breaking food down, and how to care for their teeth. Food webs and these terms will be explored: producer, consumer, predator and prey.
Computing	We will be looking at coding and how to design, code, test and debug. We will look at number variables and if/else commands. We will also discuss co-ordinates.
Geography	We will be learning about climate zones, discussing latitude and the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. We will find out about temperate and tropical climates and their characteristics. We will look at weather patterns and create our own forecasts.
PHSCE	We will be looking at celebrating difference. We will consider what it means to judge someone by their appearance, discussing bullying and how to solve problems. We will talk about what makes us special.
D&T	We will be using our knowledge of circuits from last half term's science to make



	Christmas cards based on "The Iron Man" with light up eyes. We will have some focus days to plan, design, make and evaluate later in the term.
RE	We will be discussing Incarnation and God, thinking about words from the Bible and their meaning. We will discuss Christmas Carols and the messages they are sending. We will be thinking of questions we would like to ask about the Holy Trinity and exploring our own ideas and beliefs about Christmas.
Music	We will be looking at Glockenspiels and how to play different notes. We will explore the effect of combining notes. We will also be practising our singing.

Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be set on Google Classroom. It will consist of a short task based on reading or times tables and a more focussed maths/English task. There are also spellings to learn. It will be set on a **Thursday** and needs to be completed and turned in by the following **Wednesday**. A photo can be taken of the learning and then uploaded and submitted to Google Classroom.

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 continue to have a coached PE session on Tuesday. The class will also have PE on a Friday. 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 does 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.
- 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.

If you have any questions, please contact the class team via the School Office email.

Many thanks for your continued support.

The Year 4 Team