



Year 4 - Spring1 Newsletter!



We are excited to share what your children will be learning this term! Each subject has been carefully planned to build knowledge and skills in fun and engaging ways.

Below is a summary of the units we will be exploring.

English In English this half term we will be using two different books as our text drivers.

Our first book is 'Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets'. The children will be tasked with writing their own Howler!

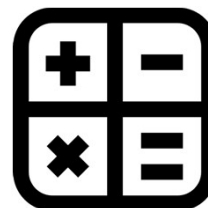
Our second book is a Non Fiction book called 'We Travel so far' which explores animal migration in different ways. The children will be tasked with replicating the type of text to create their own migration journal of an animal of their choice.

To support the children in writing for purpose, we will be focussing on present perfect tense in our first unit and using time adverbials in the second.



Maths

In Maths, we will be focusing on division. The content we will cover will be using factors and factor pairs, related facts and working through division problems efficiently using the skills we have been building on since last term. This half term we will also cover length and perimeter as well as fractions which will help us to continue developing our knowledge of number from the previous units of work.



Science

In Science, we will dive into the fascinating world of sound. Children will explore how sounds are created, how they travel, and how we hear them. Through hands-on experiments, students will investigate vibrations, pitch, and volume, as well as how materials and distance affect sound. This unit will encourage curiosity and critical thinking, helping students connect their learning to the sounds in their everyday lives.



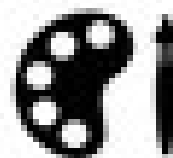
Geography

In Geography, we will focus on how coasts are formed, looking closely at the processes of erosion and how it shapes our coastlines. They will learn about the natural forces that cause erosion, and investigate how coastal defences are designed to protect our shores. Through engaging activities and case studies, students will develop an understanding of the importance of managing and preserving our coastal environments.



Art

In Art, Year 4 will explore how light and shadows are used in art. They will experiment with shading, silhouettes, and shadow effects like cross-hatching to create their own artworks. This unit will encourage creativity and show how light can make art more exciting and create the illusion of depth and dimension, building on the skills we worked on in the previous term. We will explore different artists, including Andy Warhol to inspire our own work and practice our new skills.



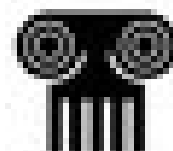
Design and Technology

In Design and Technology, the children will explore how mechanical systems bring pictures to life. They will design and create moving picture projects using levers and linkages, developing their creativity and problem-solving skills. This hands-on unit will help them understand how simple mechanisms work, where they will also construct their own greetings card with moving parts.



History

Our History unit This term will focus on the Stuart period, starting with the reign of James I and the Gunpowder Plot. They will explore the concept of divine rule, the connections between money and conflict, and how religion influenced disputes during Charles I's reign. Students will also examine artefacts to uncover what they reveal about life in this fascinating period of history.



PSHE

For our PSHE unit this half term, we will be learning more about Dreams and Goals. This includes identifying our own hopes and dreams, and how this makes us feel, along with identifying how we feel and what we could do about dreams that don't get fulfilled. Please see the attached Knowledge organiser for more detail.



Religious Education

In RE lessons this term, the children will continue deepening their understanding of Sikhism and making comparisons to Christianity, exploring the theme of 'belonging' and 'community'. They will have chance to study different ceremonies that encourage the sense of belonging and community, considering how these concepts might make us feel.

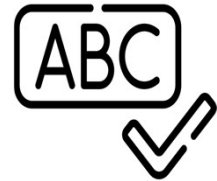


Physical Education

In one lesson each week we will be developing the children's multiskills and teaching a range of different activities that will be useful for many different sports. The other lesson each week will be on Outdoor Adventure Activities and will help with children's orienteering skills, such as map reading.

Spelling

Spelling this half term will involve having daily spelling lessons looking at Year 3 common exception words and a range of spelling patterns which concentrates on adding prefixes and suffixes and understanding homophones (words that are spelled differently but sound the same).



Computing

This half term, for computing, we will start off by exploring a unit about robots. In this unit, we will learn how to: research effectively to collect information; create a questionnaire to gather information and design our own robot.



French

In French, children in Owls will revise colour and size adjectives in French. We will use the colours to describe objects. We will practise the colour words in games and through looking in detail at the French artist – Henri Matisse. Finally, we will recreate some of Matisse's artwork and use French words and sentences to describe our creations. The children in Woodpeckers will revise and develop their knowledge of classroom instructions and objects in the class in order to try and use the target language more regularly in lessons.

Music

This term's music lessons will focus on British rock, where children will explore how bands like The Beatles and The Rolling Stones transformed popular music into a new style. Children will also explore the influences from African American blues and traditional music from India.





Puzzle Three – Dreams and Goals

Spring 1: 'Aspirations, how to achieve goals and understanding the emotions that go with this'



Content Overview:

Hopes and dreams
Overcoming disappointment
Creating new, realistic dreams
Achieving goals
Working in a group
Celebrating contributions
Resilience
Positive attitudes

Vocabulary

Dream, Hope, Goal, Determination, Perseverance, Resilience, Positive attitude, Disappointment, Fears, Hurts, Positive experiences, Plans, Cope, Help, Self-belief, Motivation, Commitment, Enterprise, Design, Cooperation, Success, Celebrate, Evaluate

Song: 'For Me'

Puzzle Outcome: Our Garden of Dreams & Goals

DfE Statutory Relationships & Health Education Guidance.

(R12) the importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs
(R14) the conventions of courtesy and manners
(R15) the importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness
(R16) that in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including those in positions of authority
(H2) that there is a normal range of emotions (e.g. happiness, sadness, anger, fear, surprise, nervousness) and scale of emotions that all humans experience in relation to different experiences and situations
(H3) how to recognise and talk about their emotions, including having a varied vocabulary of words to use when talking about their own and others' feelings

Example of Floor book: