

Year 4 Curriculum

Newsletter

AUTUMN 2018

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child back for a new school year. All of the work we are going to do has been planned to help your child reach their learning goals. Children will complete activities in a variety of ways, including reading, researching, writing, illustrating and creating, as well working on their own, with partners and in groups. We are looking forward to a fun and interesting term!



Our current topic for this term is 'Predators and Prey'. Much of the children's learning and work in English and Maths will be linked to their topics, so we will be comparing and contrasting characters, story writing, writing descriptions, report writing and diary writing. Our core texts will be **'Fox'** by Margaret Wild and **'The Iron Man'** by Ted Hughes.

Maths

We will be consolidating our place value, addition and subtraction knowledge. Practising instant recall of times tables and division facts are all very useful ways to support your child. Practising telling the time at home is another key skill that will also be of great benefit.

Your child will now have access to **DB Primary**. On the website, they will be able to complete maths activities and practise key maths skills at their level. Each child will be given their own login and passwords.



Writing

We will cover a range of text types including story writing, newspaper reports and character descriptions. The children will be expected to demonstrate their understanding of the grammar focus for the week in their writing. In grammar we will be looking at:

- Punctuation (capital letters, full stops and commas)
- Past and present tense
- Conjunctions / Noun phrases / Fronted adverbials

In addition, children will also take part in a variety of other linked activities such as VCOP sessions, spelling and handwriting practice.



Science

We will be focusing on **Living things and their habitats**. We will be recognising how living things are grouped in a variety of ways, that environments can change, and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.



Geography



The children will be using atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries. We will also be identifying the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Northern Hemisphere and Southern Hemisphere.

History

As part of our topic this term, the children will be learning about Vikings and Anglo-Saxons in England. This will include the following topics: Viking raids and invasion, resistance by Alfred the Great and Athelstan, Anglo-Saxon laws and justice and Edward the Confessor.



Age Appropriate Material

Can we remind parents / carers that children should only be watching age appropriate films - U, PG or 12A (if accompanied by an adult). Please also be vigilant regarding children viewing inappropriate music videos online and access to age appropriate video games.



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Reading

Pupils in Year 4 should read daily for a minimum of 20 minutes, and their skills are best developed when a more experienced reader reads with them and discusses their book. All pupils have access to the school library from which they may borrow up to two books at a time.

Reading Journals

For children to make good progress in their reading, they should read for a short period of time everyday. To help the children keep track of what they read and develop their independence, they have a reading journal.

What should you do:

Please can you sign or initial in your child's reading journal to agree that your child has completed their reading that day. This will ensure that their effort is recognised and they receive their reading journal sticker on their chart.

What the teacher will do:

Children will be asked to regularly share their reading journal with their teacher and discuss what they have read. This would also be an opportunity for the pupils to share their chosen, completed reading activities.

If you have any questions regarding reading journals, please do not hesitate to ask your child's class teacher.



Home Learning

In Year 4, we continue to set two home learning tasks each Friday, normally due in on the following Wednesday. We know that pupils sometimes have questions or queries about tasks and so we offer them the chance to speak to their teachers about them on Monday. This should allow them the weekend to attempt the activity and several evenings following to act on the teacher's advice. If they are still unable to complete the task, please speak to the class teacher.

In addition, it is important that children bring their reading journal to school every day. Please encourage your child to keep it up to date. Listening to your child read daily can develop their imagination and build their vocabulary.



Computing

In **Computing**, children will be learning about computer networks, including the internet and emailing. In this topic, the children will gain a deeper understanding of what the internet can provide, and to be able to send an email independently.



RE

In RE we will be finding out about Judaism. We will be studying the following: What do Jews believe? How do they worship? What festivals do they celebrate? What is the Torah?



French

Children are broadening their vocabulary and developing their ability to understand new words. Ask them about what they are learning and encourage them to share it with you at home.



Diary Dates



24th Sept	Night Owls display & photograph
8th Oct	Y4 visit to London Zoo (letter to follow)
9th Oct	Y4 visit to London Zoo (letter to follow)
19th Oct	INSET Day (School Closed to Pupils)
22nd Oct—26th Oct	Half Term Holiday
29th Oct	Pupils return to school
21st Dec	INSET Day (School Closed to Pupils)
7th Jan	Pupils return to school

Every Day Counts

Well done to the following children who achieved 100% attendance last term:

4W — Simran, Avinash, Aaron Bena-Geci, Nathan, Akshara, Yarnya, Olivia, Kushaal

4T — Aaron Horgan, Janish

4P — Anjana, Jacob, Nina

These children were all presented with certificates and stickers in assembly.

