



Year 4 Spring Term 2024



English:

Our focus text in English lessons for spring term we will be reading *The Great Kapok Tree* by Lynne Cherry. From this text, we aim to cover a range of writing genres such as character and setting descriptions, narrative writing and alternative story endings. For grammar lessons, we will focus on coordinating conjunctions, subordinate clauses, adverbial phrases, inverted commas, as well as the important skills of proof-reading work. Handwriting lessons will continue this term as well as the learning of spellings from the Year 3/4 list. These will be glued into homework books alongside homework tasks each half term and tests will be every Friday. Corresponding spelling practice will be available on Ed Shed, which we expect the children to do as part of their homework.

Creative Curriculum:

For the first half of the spring term, our topic will be 'Were the Vikings raiders, traders or settlers?' where we will be learning all about the Vikings. We will begin by learning about the events which came after the Anglo Saxons and why the Vikings chose to come to Britain and their lasting impact on today's world.

For the second half of the term, our topic will be 'Where does our food come from?' We will be learning about the impact of our food choices on the environment and understanding the importance of trading responsibly. We will describe the journey of a cocoa bean and are also planning to visit Cadbury World to support our learning on where chocolate comes from and the processes from Seed to Supermarket. In this topic, we will cover map work to calculate the different foods from different countries and the distances involved for the food to travel. Finally, we will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of buying both locally and imported food.

Maths:

Throughout the term, children will be learning:

- Multiplication and division strategies
- Length and perimeter
- Fractions
- Decimals and how they link to fractions.

In addition to this, we will continue to teach efficient mental maths strategies and multiplication facts. In order to prepare for the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) in June, please encourage your children to practise their times tables up to 12x12 and learn the corresponding division facts regularly. Times Tables Rockstars is an excellent platform for this and has an MTC simulator for pupils to practise on.

Science:

During the first few weeks of the spring term, we will be continuing with our topic of States of Matter. Then we will move on to Sound. Children will learn about how sounds travel, as well as how sounds can change pitch and loudness. They will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate the best material for soundproofing, in the context of making a music studio quieter. Finally, they will demonstrate their learning from the whole unit by designing and creating their own musical instrument that will play high, low, loud and quiet sounds.

Our next topic will be Living Things in Their Habitats - including underwater habitats. We will then look at what animals live in rivers, seas and oceans and investigate how they have adapted to the environment.

Computing:

This term, children will complete a programming unit. For programming, pupils will create programs by planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns.

British Values/PSHE/RE

For our British Values lessons, we will be looking at individual liberty and mutual respect.

In RE, we will look at why the prophet matters to Muslims. We will look at some stories from The Prophet's (PBUH) life and the teachings of the Qur'an.

In PHSE, we will be looking at 'Dreams and Goals' and 'Healthy Me' as part of our Jigsaw scheme. The lessons will involve how to develop resilience, having a positive attitude and understand how to make healthy choices and manage peer pressure.

PE:

This term, indoor PE will be on **Monday** afternoons, and they will be learning to play handball for spring 1, then they will complete a unit on dance.

Outdoor PE will be on **Wednesday** afternoons, and they will be learning to play cricket and football.

On these days, children are expected to wear suitable school P.E. kit as stated in the school policy.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 8th January: Return to school

Friday 12th January: SPARKS Workshop

Thursday 8th February: School Disco Y3 & Y4 @ 15:15-16:15pm

Friday 9th February: End of Spring 1 - non-uniform day

Monday 19th February: Return to school

Monday 26th & Wednesday 28th February: Year 4 Bikeability

Friday 1st March: Cadbury World Visit

Thursday 14th March: Parents Evening @ 2:00-7:00pm

Friday 22nd March: End of Spring Term - 1pm finish