



Year 4 curriculum newsletter — Autumn 2024



Our themes this term are: 'Prehistory' and 'The Polar Express'

Books we will be learning about

Autumn 1 – Stone girl, bone girl – *Lauren Anholt*

Stone age boy – *Sataski Kitamura*

Autumn 2 – Winter's child – *Angela McAllister and*

Grahame Baker Smith

Shackleton's Journey – *William Grill*



English

This term in English, we will be writing narratives with a clear beginning, middle and end with a clear plot, focussing on producing more detailed settings, characters and plot. We will begin to organise writing into paragraphs around a theme. Once finished, we will learn about proofreading and amending our own and others' writing with growing confidence.



Maths

The focus of teaching in Year 4 is to ensure that pupils become increasingly fluent with whole numbers and the four operations. During the year, children will develop efficient written and mental methods and will calculate with increasingly large numbers.

By the end of Year 4, pupils must know the multiplication tables and division facts up to and including 12 x 12.

Science

Animals including humans – Children will build on their knowledge and understanding of different systems within the body, focusing on our circulatory system.

Living things and their habitats – In the unit, the children will learn how to: recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways; and explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment.

RE

'How did belief in God, affect people from the Old Testament?'

Children will develop their knowledge about many people in the Old Testament and suggest some answers to 'why' questions about the motives and reactions to situations faced by them.

'Is Peace the most important message at Christmas?' Pupils will consider what peace is and through reading stories in the New Testament and think about what the Bible tell us about Jesus' message of peace.

Art and Design Technology

Our first topic is 'Prehistoric painting', where we will learn about scale, and use this knowledge to enlarge drawings using different medium. We will look how different natural products produce colour pigments and use this to create a collaborative piece of art.

In Design Technology, we will look at mechanical systems and use our knowledge to make a slingshot car.



History – 'Would you prefer to live in the stone age, bronze age or iron age?'

We will learn about different periods of prehistory, accurately placing AD and BC on a timeline. Using historical sources, we will make deductions about life in these different periods, focussing on farming, trade and settlements.

Geography – 'Who lives in Antarctica?'

In this topic, we will start by thinking about the climate of places on Earth, and how this is related to the lines of latitude and longitude. We will then describe the location, human and physical features of Antarctica, before using grid references and compass points to map a simple route.



Computing

Effective Searching—Children will learn how to locate information using a search engine, we will then use different search engines to answer question, assessing the reliability of these sources.

Using Logo—Children will start to broaden their coding skills by learning the language and structure of Logo. They will learn how to input simple instructions into 2Logo and use these to create different shapes and patterns.

Music

Children will be learning about pre-historic music and compose and perform their own compositions.



Personal, Social, Health, Economic

Children will find out what makes a healthy lifestyle. They will learn about the importance of nutrients as well as about different drugs, including alcohol. After half term, children will develop an awareness of the role of victims, bullies and bystanders, as well as make decisions on what they trust online using agreed criteria.

Important information:

Homework

We will set homework later this half-term and will use Google Classroom. It will be set on a Friday and due in by Tuesday.

Snacks and lunchtime

Please provide healthy snacks for play time; no crisps, chocolate, sesame or nuts.

Uniform

Please see the [website](#) for correct uniform.

Parent Hub

Please make sure you are signed up for [ParentHub](#) – this is our preferred communication method.

If there is a concern

Please do encourage your child to tell a member of staff if something is worrying them. If this cannot be resolved, arrange an appointment to see the class teacher by contacting the school office.

Your child's PE days are:

Monday and Wednesday

