



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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TERMLY CURRICULUM LETTER **SPRING TERM 2022**

Dear Parents,

Summary of Objectives for Year 4

For your information we have outlined below some of the topics that will be covered this term in Year 4. We have already made a good start to our studies and we know that you will make every effort to assist and encourage your child as this term progresses. The following is a summary of the curriculum we will be covering:

English

Before half term

The children will explore fantasy fiction. They will read an interactive eBook, *The Spiderwick Chronicles*, asking questions and developing understanding of inference. They will use drama to explore characters and suspense. They will plan, edit and write a new episode of the fantasy story they have studied focusing on the setting of their story, as well as developing editing and proof-reading skills.

The children will also plan, write and perform their own play focusing on the features of playwriting and using drama to express their ideas.

After half term

The children will read 'The Great Kapok Tree' and discuss and understand the effects of deforestation. The children will then research the issues surrounding the deforestation of the Rainforest. They will familiarise themselves with persuasive writing techniques leading to drafting and preparing a presentation to persuade an audience to accept their point of view.

The children will enjoy listening and responding to a range of narrative poetry, exploring and comparing the work of different poets. They will compose class and individual poems based on familiar fairy tales, editing and improving their work as part of the process as well as learning about rhyming and the effect it has on the reader.

Guided Reading

Year 4 will be engaging in 3 guided reading sessions a week. These will be whole class sessions based on a new topic each week. The children will have the chance to engage with the text and practise key skills to answer questions about that text.

Spelling

We will send spelling homework which will aim to help the children practise the new rule(s) we have been learning that week. A weekly spelling test will see how the children are getting on with their spellings and any gaps in learning.





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Maths

This term in maths we will be covering multiplication and division methods, the measurement of area, fractions and decimals.

Other areas of study will include:

In **Religious Education** the children will learn how festivals and worship show what matters to Muslims as well as understanding what the impact the Pentecost has on Christians.

In **Geography** our key question is **why are jungles so wet and deserts so dry?**

As **geographers** the children will be taught to:

- Use atlas skills to locate tropical rainforests and jungles on a world map.
- Identify the equator, the Tropics and the different continents.
- Research the distinctive features of jungles and deserts introducing the word 'biome' and understanding what climate means.
- Investigate how climate can affect the plants and animals living in a place.

In **History** our key question is **who were the Anglo-Saxons and how do we know what was important to them?**

As **historians** the children will be taught to:

- Understand why the Romans left Britain and give reasons for it.
- Consider how archaeologists help us to understand more about what has happened in the past.
- study artefacts and discuss how and what they might have been used for in Anglo-Saxon times
- Compare the Anglo-Saxon way of life with how people lived before them and how we live today.

As **designers** the children will be taught to:

Analyse and evaluate a range of existing fastenings, then devise a list of design criteria to design, generate templates and make a fabric book sleeve.

As **artists** the children will be taught to:

Analyse works of art, using inference and prediction to explore what might be depicted and intended by the artists.

Science

Before half term our topic will be **Animals and living things**.

After half term our topic is **Dangers to living things**.

As **scientists** the children will be taught to:

- Investigate the habitats in jungles and deserts including the different food chains which exist.
- Investigate different species of animal in both the jungle and desert and how they adapt to their environment.
- Use the Internet to research the endangered species of the two habitats and how changes in the environment in which they live are affecting them as well as dangers to them in the habitat in which they live.

Music

The children have Singing Assembly on a Tuesday afternoon and a whole class music lesson in the week. In Music lessons this term the children will be learning about music from around the world. They will explore pentatonic melodies and syncopated rhythms which are frequently used in world music.

The children will also be learning a range of hymns and songs through whole-school singing assemblies in preparation for services throughout the term.



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What do we expect of you? You can help and support us by:

- Listening to your child read each week.
- Discuss the books your child is reading to help them develop their reading skills.
- Testing all times tables on a regular basis, including related division facts.
- Providing safe computer access in order for them to access homework on google classroom and Times Tables Rock Stars.
- Assisting your child with research and other studies as appropriate.
- Ensuring that your child has their labelled PE kit and outdoor PE shoes in school.
- **Please could you check that each item of clothing is named, including PE items, especially in this cold weather when the children are bringing in extra layers – it really does help us to return the clothes to the right child.**

Homework will be set on a Friday on google classroom and should be completed by the following Wednesday. Written homework should not be rushed and should always be presented well. The homework will consolidate the work we have done in class or give the opportunity to develop the children's research skills.

Times Tables should be practised every week. Please do ensure the children regularly read and practise their times tables at home. This can be completed through Times Tables Rock Stars.

This term, your child will have PE on Tuesdays with Mr Morgan, a qualified sports coach. On a Friday the children will take part in swimming lessons so will not have PE on this day. However, could they please still come into school wearing their PE kit as it makes changing after swimming easier. It is a statutory requirement that all children must participate in games sessions. If your child has a genuine medical reason why they cannot take part in a games session, then a note must be provided.

Below is a table outlining lessons that take place regularly this term, all other subjects and times are due to change.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Assembly 2:30	PE 9:05 – 10:05		Abbey Service 9:15 – 9:40	Assembly 1:10 – 1:30
Music 10:55 – 11:40	Assembly 1:10 – 1:30	Assembly 1:10 – 1:30		Swimming 2:15 – 3:00
		Homework due in		Homework handed out

Who will be working with your children this term?

Miss Long is the class teacher. We are also fortunate to have the expertise of Mrs Clarke working with us in the role of Teaching Assistant all day on a Monday and on a Tuesday morning. If, at any stage, you have questions or require further clarification relating to any aspect of your child's school activities, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to speak with me in the first instance. I have appreciated your support and assistance so far this year and I am confident that you will continue to work with us to ensure that your child has a happy and successful term.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Long
Year 4 Teacher