



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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TERMLY CURRICULUM LETTER SUMMER TERM 2024

Dear Parents,

We have already made a fantastic start to the Summer term and have so many exciting things to look forward to! Outlined below are some of the topics that will be covered this term in Year 4. On Thursday 9th May, Year 4 and 5 will be going on a school trip to Ashridge which will be a great opportunity to take part in outdoor learning with activities including map skills and orienteering.

Year 4 will take the **compulsory Key Stage 2 multiplication check**. This will take place over a three-week period – week beginning 3rd June. More information to follow.

We have spent a lot of time on our times tables already with our speed and accuracy improving all the time. The multiplication check will be taken on a Chromebook in school so we have been spending time getting used to the format of this. Please continue to support your child with their times tables. More information on this to follow in due course.

Some useful websites/apps are:

- URBrainy
- Top Marks
- The Maths Factor (pinpoint times tables check)
- WhiteRose App

Summary of Objectives for Year 4

The following is a summary of the curriculum we will be covering:

English

Before half term

-Fiction mystery writing – based on The Great Chocoplot

We will spend time exploring our two texts 'The Great Chocoplot' and 'The Switch' to look at a variety of writer's techniques in the genre of Mystery. The children will have opportunities to write descriptive paragraphs whilst building a story through plot points. We will then write independently about a new mystery storyline.

-Non-Fiction - Holiday Brochures

We will begin our unit with time to explore the structure of a holiday brochure. Then, we will be writing a persuasive holiday brochure using a range of different techniques.



After half term

- Fiction adventure writing – based on ‘Journey’ by Aaron Becker

We will spend time exploring our key text whilst reflecting on our own personal journeys. The children will have opportunities to apply our direct speech rules as well as many other writing techniques through an adventurous narrative plot.

-Non-Fiction – Newspaper Report

This unit will be based on ‘The Creature’ to explore the structure and content of a fictional newspaper report. The children will learn how to use different writing techniques including - straplines, sequenced events and eye-witness accounts. This will equip them to write their own newspaper reports independently.

Guided Reading

Year 4 will continue to engage in daily guided reading sessions. One or two of these will be whole class sessions based on our class book, with the remainder being small group sessions. The children will have the chance to engage with the text and practise key skills to answer questions about that text.

Please continue to use reading records as a document of all reading. This reading record should be coming into school every day. We aim to read 1:1 with the children as much as possible and the children read independently on a daily basis. Reading records will be checked every Thursday morning.

Spelling

Spelling tasks will be sent home in their homework that will aim to support the children to practise the new rule 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.

Across the term, some of the spelling rules we will focus on are:

- Homophones
- ‘s’ sound spelt ‘c’
- Word families
- Prefixes ‘super’, ‘anti’ and ‘auto’
- Prefix ‘bi’

Maths

In **Maths**, children will be taught:

- Decimals – tenths and hundredths
- Money – convert, compare, estimate with money and solve problems with money
- Time – convert between digital, analogue and to/from the 24-hour clock.
- Shape – identify, compare, order angles and explore a variety of different shapes
- Statistics – interpret charts/graphs and draw line graphs
- Position and direction – use/plot coordinates and translate on a grid

Science

Before half term, our topic is **Physics (Sound)**– see vocabulary list.

After half term, our topic is **Biology (Grouping/classifying living things, habitats and food chains)**– see vocabulary list.

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

- Learning about vibrations and how they are linked with the sounds we hear.
- Grouping and classifying living things to identify and sort animals/plants based on a variety of features.
- Exploring a variety of different habitats to investigate biodiversity.
- Understanding the human impact on habitats.
- To understand and interpret food chains to then try and draw their own food chains.

In **Religious Education**, the children will learn what the impact the Pentecost has on Christians and explore the key question, 'how can we make the world a better place?'

In **History** this term we will be focussing on **Vikings** and in **Geography** we will be exploring **Earthquakes**.

In **History** our key question is **what did the Vikings want and how did Alfred help stop them getting it?**

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

- describe the reasons for the attack on Lindisfarne in 793.
- explain exactly who the attackers were and where they came from.
- identify and describe the design features of a longship and explain why it was an ideal vessel for Viking raiding.
- interpret a range of source evidence to explain why most Viking Norsemen travelled to Britain in Anglo Saxon times.

In **Geography**, our key question is **why do some earthquakes cause more damage?**

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

- locate and describe the effects of the Christchurch earthquake of 2011 from a range of sources.
- observe and record the distribution of earthquakes in New Zealand over the past 200 years.
- identify, describe and explain the causes of earthquakes.
- describe and explain why New Zealand experience earthquakes when they do not occur at all in many areas of the world.

PE

PE will continue to be Tuesdays (indoors) and Fridays (outdoors).

These are the areas covered for the Summer term:

Indoor:

Rhythmic gymnastics and Choreography/Performance

Outdoor:

Athletics and Tennis

Please ensure the **correct** PE kit is worn into school on these days.

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

- Labelling all items of clothing and providing a water bottle.
- Listening to your child read each evening and support recording in their reading record with a signature.
- Ensuring your child has stationary ready for learning.
- Testing times tables on a regular basis.
- Providing safe computer access in order for them to access homework.
- Assisting your child with research and other studies as appropriate.
- Ensuring that your child comes to school in PE kit for Tuesdays and Fridays.
- **Homework** will be set on a Wednesday and should be **completed by the following Wednesday**.

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 arrange an appointment by emailing the School Office. We are here to work in partnership with you.

Yours sincerely,

Miss J Roberts
Year 4 Teacher