

Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term 2021 – Year 4

Term	Topic
Autumn first half term	Who invented that? (electricity and sound) – <i>Construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers. Identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating</i>
Autumn second half term	Were the Anglo-Saxons smashing? - <i>Britain's settlement by Anglo-Saxons and Scot.</i>
Spring first half term	Were the Vikings vicious and victorious? - <i>The Viking and Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England to time of Edward the Confessor</i>
Spring second half term	When is water not water? – <i>Water cycles, Change of state.</i>
Summer first half term	Why are rainforests important for us all? - <i>Locate Europe and Americas. Focus on physical features, people and climate change. Food chains. Living things.</i>
Summer second half term	How did the Kingdom of Benin become part of the British Empire? - <i>Locate Benin within the continent of Africa, key people, art, artefacts, how the Kingdom began and ended.</i>

Autumn

Religious Education

We will cover 3 different units focussing on different themes within our religion. These are:

- The Domestic Church -The Family of God in Scripture
- Baptism and Confirmation – Belonging (understanding the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation)
- Advent/Christmas – Loving (children will understand that loving and friendship are gifts)

The children will also have the opportunity to learn a little about the faith of Judaism.

English

Reading

We will be reading a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts with children discussing key features of texts and developing comprehension skills. In school reading experiences will vary between independent reading, guided reading (focussed group with teacher) and whole class reading. For maximum progress to be made, it is vital that children are also reading with an adult on a daily basis at home. The Year 4 children can use their organisers to record books they have read. This will need to be signed by parents and will be checked by the teacher on their guided reading day.

Writing

This term we will be looking at reading & writing:

- Poetry
- Narrative
- Information texts
- Non-fiction Reports

Spelling

We will be revising key words from Y4 where necessary. We will also be working on a range of different spelling rules:

- Adding prefixes to words (re / sub/inter /super/anti/auto)
- Adding the suffix: ous (poisonous)

- Words with endings such as: invention/expression/musician

Grammar & Punctuation

We will be learning about the importance of proof reading our writing to check for grammatical sense and correct use of punctuation. The children will be expected to be able to use capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences. They will use inverted commas to punctuate direct speech and be introduced to semi-colons, colons and brackets.

In their written work children will be expected to use a range of conjunctions [for example, when, before, after, while, so, because], adverbs [for example, then, next, soon, therefore] and prepositions [for example, before, after, during, in, because of]. By the end of year 4 children are expected to be able to use a wide variety of punctuation, connectives and have an increasing vocabulary; it is vital that children read a wide variety of material in order to support this development of language.

Mathematics

Where possible maths lessons will link to our topic but this will clearly not always be possible and many concepts need to be taught in isolation. In addition your children should be practicing their times tables at home in preparation for our weekly test.

We aim to cover the following topics this term:

- Place value (reading, writing, comparing and ordering numbers)
- Decimals (To recognise and write decimal equivalents of any number of tenths or hundredths.)
- Data handling (collect, present & interpret data)
- Measuring (using and converting between mm /cm/m)
- Addition & Subtraction (mental and formal written methods)
- Time (telling time in 5 minute intervals)
- Measuring - reading scales (thermometers, force meters, weighing scales, etc)
- Fractions (recognise and write fractions of amounts and objects)

Topic –

Electricity

Identify common appliances that run on electricity and construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts of a circuit. Recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.

Sound

Identify how sounds are made and recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear.

Anglo Saxons

From Anglo-Saxon invasions, movement patterns, settlements and kingdoms: place names and village life. Recognise Anglo-Saxon art and culture including Christian conversion. Name and locate geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics.

French

Year 4 children are continuing to learn French in a weekly lesson. This term our French topic is called 'Les Animaux' (Animals). Within this topic we will be covering:

- pets
- numbers to 40
- festivals / Christmas
- sounds and spellings

Dates

Tuesday 21st September- Year 4 parents information meeting – 3:35pm

Friday 1st October- LEGOLAND trip

Friday 22nd October- Training day- school is closed

Monday 25th October – Friday 29th October – Half term

Monday 1st November – Back to school – Mass for All Saints

Tuesday 30th November – St Andrew’s Day Mass

Monday 13th December – Junior Carol Service - 2 p.m.

Wednesday 15th December – Junior Carol Service – 6:30 p.m.

Friday 17th December- End of Term- School closes at 1:30 p.m.

Communication with Parents

It is very important to us as a school that we work in partnership with parents. Therefore we welcome any feedback you can give us about your child and their experience in school; if you have any concerns or worries please send a message through the office to your child’s class teacher or alternatively you can contact Mr O’Connell or Mrs Young directly via ClassDojo.