

How can I help my child's learning at home?

There are lots of things that you can do as a parent to assist your child with their learning:

- Try to hear your child read every night for at least 5-10 minutes – *discuss what they have read, and the meaning of new words. Enjoy this time together!*
- Help your child to achieve their reading, writing and handwriting targets.
- Practise all of the times tables and division facts up to 12 x 12
- Encourage your child to complete their homework each week.
- Tell us about achievements at home – ***every step of your child's development is important to us!***

Useful websites for fun learning activities include:

www.transum.org/Tables/Times_Tables.asp
www.coolmath4kids.com/
www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/
www.maths-games.org/
www.mathsisfun.com/games/index.html
www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/

Year 4

Reading:

Reading is a whole-school focus for us this year and it is essential for your child to be able to read for pleasure both in school and at home. Please ensure your child is reading a range of books, both fiction and non-fiction and talk to your child about their reading. Remember to keep logging in to your Bug Club online account. ***Please also remember write a comment in their reading record to let us know how they are getting on with their reading with you at home!***

Please ensure absences are kept to a minimum this term and that you continue to support your child with their home learning. If there is ever a problem, try to let us know as soon as possible, so that we are able to help the best that we can!

- Contact us by phone at: **01253 402936**
- Look at our school website at:
<https://www.gateway.fcat.org.uk/>
- Find out what we've been up to on our school Twitter page at: <https://twitter.com/gatewayfcat?lang=en-gb>



Teaching and Learning Newsletter

**Spring Term 2021
Year 4**

Ms Sinclair and Mr. Snelling

**Blackpool Gateway Academy
Seymour Rd
Blackpool
FY1 6JH**

Writing



Throughout the Spring term we will continue to be using 'Talk for Writing' as a stimulus for delivering our writing units.

We will be exploring a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts, concentrating on various punctuation and grammar skills relevant to the genre, including:

Varying sentence openers

Fronted adverbials

Using commas to indicate clauses

Use books from the library or the internet to help your child find out more about these

Reading

Throughout the spring term we will continue to be using a range of fiction and non-fiction texts to improve our reading skills.

In particular we will focus on an increased fluency in reading aloud, the use of punctuation to aid in expression, identifying key features of texts, and beginning to be able to express their opinions providing evidence to support these.

PE

During Spring 1 children will be developing the fundamental skills of throwing and catching through the tactical game of dodgeball. Spring 2 will see them working on their teamwork, throwing, catching and hitting skills through the competitive sport of rounders.

Maths

This term we will be covering different aspects of maths, integrating problem solving and skills wherever possible.

The main topics that will be covered are:

- Number: Multiplication and Division, Fractions and Decimals.
- Measurement: Area

Practise recalling your multiplication and division facts for your times tables



Science and Technology

Science: In spring 1 we will be learning about States of matter and the water cycle, moving onto Sound in Spring 2.

We will be exploring: different materials, comparing and grouping them, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases.

DT: In Spring 2 we will be creating a Moving Story Book.

We will be exploring: how cam mechanisms are used to aid movement.

What is the water cycle?

Humanities

History: During Spring 1 we will be starting a History unit on the Normans. The key question is: 'What happened in Britain after 1066??'

We will be exploring: *Who the Normans were, what battles took place during their time in Britain and how they changed Britain.*

Geography: During Spring 2 we will be learning about the rainforest. The key question is: 'What Is a rainforest?'

We will be exploring: *What makes a rainforest, what features a rainforest has, the impact of deforestation and all about the importance of rainforests.*

The 'Arts'

Music – Blackpool music service continue to be working with year 4 to provide weekly wider opportunities to the children.

Art: In Spring 1 we will be completing our 3D textile unit.

We will be exploring: How digital images can enhance our artwork.

Religious Education (RE)

During Spring 1, will be continuing our learning about Buddhism. The key question is 'Can the Buddha's teachings make the world a better place?'

In Spring 2, we will move on to exploring Christianity, asking the key question 'Is forgiveness always possible for Christians?'