



Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break. I look forward to teaching your child this year.

Mrs Cleary will be in class on Monday AM teaching art and design technology.

Here are the exciting topics and subjects we will be covering during the autumn term.

CbIDS (Consciousness-based Interdisciplinary Studies)

This term our CbIDS aspects of orderly growth include: We are here to enjoy, Creativity, Energy, Intelligence, Purposefulness, Rest and activity, Orderliness and Purification.

Maths

In Maths this term we are covering a range of topics which includes: reading, writing numbers to 10,000; comparing and ordering numbers to 10,000; working with roman numerals; working with all four operations. Helping your child to know up to 12 times-tables will be invaluable. There is a Government multiplication test in Year 4 so children will need as much practice as possible. Please ask for your child's TTRockstars login details if required.

English

We will start the term looking at some work by poet and author Michael Rosen. We will read and perform some of his poems, and write a poem of our own in his style.

Our next unit will focus on "How to Train Your Dragon" by Cressida Cowell. This is a fun and exciting book that will engage the children in developing their writing skills and sentence structure. We will conclude the unit by writing a "What If?" story, such as "What if Hiccup never met Toothless?"



Towards the end of the Autumn term, using Dara McAnulty's fantastic book *Wild Child* as a starting point, the children will explore the local environment and use their learning to create fact files, information cards and reports. Alongside this, they will develop their grammar by using conjunctions to extend ideas and expanding noun phrases to add vivid description to their writing.

Spelling, punctuation and grammar will be a focus through our English work. We will work on sentence structure throughout the term and use Alan Peat sentence types to enable the children to write in a more sophisticated way.

Science

Autumn 1 – Animals including Humans

In this unit on Animals Including Humans, children will build on their Year 3 knowledge of nutrition and explore the human digestive system and the functions of teeth in humans and animals. They will learn about different types of teeth and dental hygiene, conduct an investigation into tooth decay using an egg, and demonstrate the digestive process with household items. The unit will also cover herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores in relation to teeth, digestion, and food chains, extending their understanding from Key Stage 1 to more complex food chains, including the terms 'consumers' and 'producers'. Finally, students will compare the teeth of various animals and link their functions to the food chain.

Autumn 2 – States of Matter

In the "States of Matter" unit, students will learn about solids, liquids, and gases by classifying objects and identifying their properties. They will investigate the weight of gas, determine the ideal temperature to melt chocolate, and explore how water changes state through melting, freezing, condensing, and evaporation. The unit will conclude with a study of the water cycle, where students will create mini water worlds and an interactive water wheel to represent its stages.

History – Autumn 1

In Year 4, children learn about the Vikings as part of their history curriculum. They explore who the Vikings were, their raids and settlements in Britain, and how they influenced daily life. Students will discover Viking trade, beliefs, and mythology, as well as their interactions with the Anglo-Saxons. The lessons also encourage children to think about how the Vikings have left a lasting impact on modern society. It's a great opportunity for them to compare Viking life with other historical periods!

Geography – Autumn 2

Our geography work will concentrate on identifying the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night). We will use information technology as well as atlases to name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom, ensuring we cement our knowledge of the human and physical geography of the country we live in.

Art – Autumn 1

In Year 4 art, students will explore the whimsical world of Lewis Carroll's "Jabberwocky." They will use the poem's imaginative imagery as inspiration to create their own artwork, experimenting with different techniques and materials. This project encourages creativity and helps students express their interpretations of the fantasy characters and scenes described in the poem. It's a wonderful way for them to connect literature and art while having fun!

DT – Autumn 2

In Year 4 design technology, students will engage in exciting projects where they generate and develop their own design ideas. They'll learn about shell structures and use Computer-Aided Design (CAD) software to model and communicate their concepts. As they plan their creations, they will select appropriate tools and software, explaining their choices along the way. Students will also explore computer-generated finishing techniques to enhance their designs. Additionally, they will evaluate different shell structures, including their own projects, while gaining

knowledge about nets of cubes, cuboids, and more complex 3D shapes to build strong and sturdy structures. This hands-on learning experience will help spark their creativity and problem-solving skills!

Computing

Computing systems and networks - In Year 4 computing, students will dive into the world of networks and the internet, learning to appreciate it as a network of networks that needs to be kept secure. They'll discover that the World Wide Web is a part of the internet and have the chance to explore it themselves. This will help them understand who owns online content and what they can access, add, and create. Additionally, they will learn how to evaluate online information to determine its honesty and reliability, as well as the importance of recognising false information. One lesson will even use Chrome Music Lab to show the creative possibilities available on the web!

Creating Media - In this unit, students will learn about working with sound digitally by identifying the input device (microphone) and output devices (speakers or headphones) they need. They will discuss important topics like digital audio ownership and copyright issues when using others' work. To apply what they've learned, students will use Audacity to create their own podcast, which will involve recording, editing, and adding multiple audio tracks. They'll also practise opening and saving their audio files. Finally, students will evaluate their work and provide constructive feedback to their classmates, fostering a collaborative learning environment.

Music

Autumn 1

In Music, the children will explore the theme of Musical Structures, learning how repeated and contrasting sections, such as verses and choruses, create form in songs. Singing and listening are central to the unit, and pupils will also play, improvise and compose using the notes C, D, E, F, G, A and B \flat . Alongside this, they will reflect on the question "How does music bring us together?" and have the opportunity to share their learning through performance.



Religious Education

Autumn 2

The taught R.E syllabus is not designed to convert pupils, or to promote a particular religion or religious belief. The aim is to promote an understanding and respect for those with different religions and religious beliefs and to prepare our students to live in a diverse and modern Britain.

In Year 4 religious education, students will explore two major faiths: Hinduism and Christianity. They will learn about Hindu Dharma, focusing on the significance of Diwali, the festival of lights, and what Hindus can learn from this celebration, such as the importance of good over evil and the value of community and family. Additionally, students will investigate how Christians use the Bible in their daily lives, understanding its role as a source of guidance, inspiration, and moral teaching. This unit aims to foster respect and understanding of different religious practices and beliefs.

Other important information

P.E this year will be on Fridays. The first half term will be on the school premises and off site in Autumn 2. We will also have swimming lessons in Autumn 2 that will take place on a Friday afternoon.

I will set homework on a Friday and the children will be expected to complete and return the work by the following Friday. Spellings can be shown and then brought back home to learn.

Please ensure your child brings a water bottle to school and a healthy snack can be brought for morning break time.

We look forward to working with you and your child this year.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Lowrie and the Year 4 team