

YEAR 4 SPRING TERM 2018

WATER WATER EVERYWHERE

English

This half term we will be delving into another story by writing our own warning stories and looking at the Water Aid charity to help us to write persuasively about the importance of saving water. There will be a particular focus on developing precise language choices and further developing our understanding of a range of sentence lengths and structures. After the half term break, we will be writing rhythm and rap poems, exploring the exciting world of storm chasers and writing a news report about extreme weather and also writing our own losing tales. Grammatical elements will continue to develop the children's understanding of different sentence types and develop language choices for different purposes.

Guided reading sessions are carried out through a carousel approach to allow us to adapt learning for different groups of children. Each week, groups will have time to explore a fiction or non-fiction text, and discuss and develop comprehension skills with the teacher and independently.

Maths

During lessons this term, Year 4 will be developing their understanding of multiplication and division. A huge part of this will be applying children's times tables knowledge, so some extra practice on these would really set them on the right path to succeed! We will also be exploring problem solving and reasoning opportunities to look at patterns and puzzles with these skills, including calculating the area of simple shapes.

Following on from this, in the second half term, we will be learning about fractions. The children will need to find simple fractions of shapes and numbers, as well as apply multiplication and division skills to find equivalence between fractions with different denominators. They will finish the term by exploring decimal numbers with one or two decimal places.

Topic and Science

This term's topic is 'Water, Water Everywhere' and combines key elements of Science and Geography. We will begin by exploring geographical elements of rivers and mountains including where they are found, key landmarks and how they are formed. Our Science work will begin by exploring states of matter and how changes of state happen from solid to liquid and gas. There will be lots of hands on exploration to help make this practical and we will be developing accurate use of a range of scientific equipment to help with this. After the half term break, we will explore how states of matter by linking our understanding with the water cycle in nature. Following on from this, we will explore sound and how sound waves travel. We will be learning about pitch and frequency and how these can be changed.

Computing

This term's Computing will develop desktop publishing skills, using a range of software including Microsoft Word and Publisher, as well as focussing on developing efficient web research skills. In our coding sessions, we will complete a selection investigation, whereby children will use the program 'Scratch' to write their own simple code. As part of our Esafety work we will discuss the importance of keeping personal information and photographs private.

RE

This term's concepts are Myth and Ritual. The children will learn about similarities in these concepts between Christianity and other world religions.

PE

To begin with, we will be developing practical control and strategic hockey skills in PE as well as choreographing dances with a water theme. Next half term, the children will learn skills and tactics in the context of football and also further develop their control of gymnastic movements and sequences.

MFL - French

Children will develop their spoken French through the consolidation of prior learning and a French presentation. They will also learn vocabulary about Family so they are able to share their details orally and in writing.

Music

This term we will develop our singing and percussion skills in Music through the Wonderful Waterworks Unit.

PSHE

In PSHE lessons, children will develop their understanding of relationships including the concept of secrets and when and how to share their concerns safely. As part of our health and wellbeing focus they will discuss how images in the media can be distorted and set personal goals for the future.

Art and DT

In Art, we will explore the concept of Water through different cultures and produce several different final pieces along this theme using a range of medium.

In DT, we will be designing and making creatures with moving parts by applying our understanding of how different levers work to our own creative designs.