

Lower KS2 Half Termly Curriculum Overview

Year 4 2019/2020 - Spring 2

Dear Parents,

I trust you and your child, have had a very enjoyable half term break. I really enjoyed being able to speak with you all at parent's evening and I hope you found it interesting looking through what your child has been doing in school. For this spring half term, I am pleased to provide you with information about what the children will be covering in the different subjects, if you wish to know more about it visit the DfE website, the school website or speak with me. Kind regards, Mrs Foy.

Catholic life of the school

On a Monday morning, we start the week by gathering together to reflect on the week ahead and pray together. Each Thursday at 9am, we hold a Celebration Assembly, when we celebrate the achievements of children from each class with parents.

In class the children will continue to plan and lead collective worship on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The children will have a Key Stage assembly on a Wednesday morning. The children will be attending a variety of whole school masses, both in Church and in school.

The Wednesday Word is available for every child to take home every Wednesday. Please look out for this and share it with your child. Additional copies are available at the school office.

During this Lent half term the children will be involved in charity works, particularly during Lent. We will be taking part in fundraising activities and raising awareness of local charities through the 'Good Shepherd Appeal' for Nugent Care and also be raising funds for 'Mission Together' which supports international charity work, with our little red 'Missio' boxes.

The children will also have the opportunity to take home a purple prayer bag, during Lent, to share a collective worship and activities with their family. Please make a record of it in the yellow class book provided.

Healthy School Initiative

As part of the healthy school initiative, we encourage the children to be active at playtimes and improve their fitness by completing the 'Daily Mile'. This is done from a walking pace through to a jogging/running pace, as each child increases in speed and ability.

Children are encouraged to drink water throughout the day so it is important that the children have their bottles in everyday! It makes it easier for the children if the bottles have a sports top, as it would prevent any unnecessary spillage.

A healthy snack may be given to the children to eat during morning playtime.

Information and dates to remember

24th Feb - School opens
26th Feb - Ash Wednesday Service, 9.30am
5th Mar - World Book Day
9th Mar - Individual and Family photographs
26th Mar - Year 4 Class Mass, 9.30am
8th April - End of half term, school closes.
9th April - INSET day for staff.
20th Apr - School opens
May Day Bank Holiday Friday 8th May
SATs Week w/c: Monday 11th May

Homework information

- **English homework** will be given out on a Friday and is to be handed in the following Tuesday.

- **Spellings** will be given out on a Tuesday and tested the following Monday, in addition to a focus on the children embedding their spellings into their written work and working in their Spelling Logs.

- **Maths homework** will be given out on a Tuesday and is to be handed in on Friday of the same week.

- **Reading** each child should read for a minimum of 15 minutes per night and complete their reading records.

Concerns and messages

If you have any concerns or problems, please do not hesitate to come in and see me at the end of the school day.

Any messages in the morning must be left with a Teaching Assistant on the junior gate and they will be passed directly to me that morning.

Year 4General Class
InformationBig Maths

The children will continue to complete a weekly 'Big Maths' assessment and will be assessed at the end of the half term on their progress.

Each child will continue to keep their Big Maths files in their book bags so that they can share their assessments with you and work on the types of questions that they find more challenging. The children will continue to split into smaller groups and work with a Big Maths teacher once a week. We will also be continuing to focus on learning our times tables and be rewarding with bronze, silver and gold stickers on our tables' charts. Please encourage your child to use their Maths skills at every opportunity.

Remember we are going for green!

Reading

In line with our school policy the children will develop their reading in class throughout the week through shared reading and guided reading sessions and I shall be monitoring their reading progress carefully each week with my own records. Our class reader for this half term will be 'History Hackers: Roman Rescue'.

The reading records are for parents to record your child's reading at home. We ask all our children to read for 15 minutes each night. Although I will be keeping my own record of your child's reading progress it would be really helpful if you could make comments in your child's reading record book each time they read, to let me know how they have coped with a book at home. Home reading records are checked every day and home reading is acknowledged with positive comments and stickers.

We have purchased a lot of new reading resources throughout the school, in particular the banded home readers. I will be checking weekly and guiding your child's choice of reading book and changing them as necessary.

If your child reads any other reading material as well as their reading book from school, please also make a note of it in their reading record. The home reading record is also a good way to make contact with me if you wish to send me a message and cannot get into school.

As well as our reading activities in class, we ask that in addition to hearing your child read, you share books and read to them and explore the pleasure of reading with your child.

The school continues to run an early-doors reading club (£2) 8am - 8:45am each morning. Open to all!

Grammar Hammer

The children will continue to complete a fortnightly 'Grammar Hammer' assessment and will be assessed at the end of the half term on their progress.

Each child will continue to keep their SPAG folders (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) in their book bags so that they can share their assessments with you and work on the types of questions that they find more challenging. The children will be focusing on one grammar aspect each week.

Please encourage your child to use their folders to practise different areas of grammar at every opportunity.



RE - Spring term topics**Giving and Receiving:**

This topic will allow the children to explore how God is a God that loves to give gifts, and how these gifts can be received.

Self-Discipline:

The children will be learning about Lent and how and why people prepare and behave during this time of self-discipline.

First Reconciliation & Holy Communion:

The children will be looking towards their First Reconciliation and Holy Communion and will be learning about all the different aspects that go into the Communion Mass in order to prepare themselves completely.

Please read the RE newsletter on the school website for more information.

Science- Living Things

- Identify and explain the seven characteristics of living things, and how their habitat is suited to their different needs.
- Classify different living things, using keys to help easy identification.
- Work scientifically by investigating mini-beasts within the school grounds, and focus on the habitat they are found in.
- Recall and build on previous knowledge of food webs.
- Discuss and debate the effect of humans on the habitat of other living things.
- Research the different measures that can be taken to help sustainable management of habitats.

English**Reading**

- Use dictionaries to check the meaning and spelling of words.
- Continue to listen to and discuss a range of fiction, non-fiction and reference books.
- Read, listen to and discuss a range of traditional poetry.
- Discuss words, phrases and uses of grammar that capture the reader's interest and imagination.
- Read a variety of texts each day including books, newspapers and leaflets.
- Understand what they read, in books they can read independently, by:
- Checking that the text makes sense to them, explaining the meaning of words in context, asking questions to improve their understanding of a text.
- Retrieve and record information from non-fiction texts and participate in discussions.

Writing

- Use organisational devices e.g. headings, sub-headings, bullet points and lists.
- Compose and rehearse sentences orally, building a rich vocabulary and a range of sentence structures.
- Assess effectiveness of their own and the writing of others, and look to suggest ways of 'up-staging' it.

Grammar and Punctuation

- Vary sentence structure by expressing time and cause using conjunctions, and prepositions.
- Correct use of past and present tense.
- Revision of apostrophes to mark contracted forms in spelling.
- To use lists, bullet points, headings and sub-headings to aid presentation.
- Continue to improve verbs using adverbs to aid interest.
- Develop use of interesting adjectives to aid impact.
- Consistently use paragraphs appropriately.

Spelling

- Work through the stage four spellings and apply them in their written work.
- Continue to develop accurate use of prefixes and suffixes.
- Identify and practice any weaknesses within the high frequency words.

Mathematics**Number - Number and Place Value**

- Count on from 0 in multiples of 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 50 and 100.
- Find 10, 100, and 1000 more/less than a given number.
- Solve number problems involving multiples and 10 and 100 and 1000 more/less.

Addition and Subtraction

- Add and subtract numbers mentally 4-digit numbers and tens/hundreds.
- Add and subtract numbers with up to 4-digits, using formal written methods of columnar addition and subtraction.
- Solve addition and subtraction problems, including missing number problems.

Multiplication and Division

- Recall multiplication and division facts for 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9 and 10 times tables.
- Recall multiplication facts for 7 and 8 times table.

Fractions

- Recognise, find and write fractions of a number and equivalent fractions.
- Identifying similarities in fractions before simplifying them.
- Round 1 decimal place to the nearest whole number.
- Converting fractions into decimals, and percentages.
- Adding and subtracting fractions.
- Apply fractions in money problems.

Measurement

- Accurately tell the time, and solves problems relating to it.

Geometry - Properties of Shapes

- Identify 2D shapes, recognise them different orientations and describe their properties.
- Identifying and classifying quadrilaterals.

History

The children will continue to learn about 'The Romans Empire', but with a particular focus on how it impacted on Britain. They will continue to develop their skills, including:

- Investigative skills such as: asking questions, using a variety of sources and selecting which are appropriate, explaining why some historical recounts can differ.
- Chronological skills such as: using timelines, using dates with accuracy and understanding changes over time.
- Communication skills such as: using historical vocabulary and presentation skills to the expected standard.

PE

The children will be working through the Real PE scheme which will help them to improve their physical skills such as:

- Changing direction, speed, and level.
- Refine movements into sequences.
- Plan, perform and repeat sequences.
- Travelling in a variety of ways.

The children will be working with Warrington Wolves to develop their skills in tag rugby.

Please ensure PE kits are in school every day and are clearly labelled.

PSHCE

-The children will be looking at how they will grow and change and how this can impact how they see themselves, and how they see others. There will be a focus on having respect for everyone.

Topic Title**Robust
Romans**Computing

- The children will learn how they can create content for the web.
- They will be looking at the potential risks of using the internet and how they can best protect themselves when being online.
- They will look at how easily web content can be changed and lead them into thinking about the reliability of information that can be found on the web.

Art

- The children will be looking at geometry and how it can be used artistically.
- They will look at creating unique artistic pieces that revolve around straight lines, harsh angles, symmetry and a variety of shapes.

DT

- Investigate Roman foods, and why their diet was as it was.
- They will be sampling some 'traditional' Roman cuisine and forming their own opinions about it.
- The children will be looking at ancient recipes and the methods used, to create their own food.
- They will look at what foods are still eaten today and in particular, in Britain, as a result of the Roman influence.

Music

- The children will be working with Glockenspiels to begin to read simple music notes.
- They will put this into practise and start to play some simple songs with the Glockenspiels.
- They will begin to evaluate their own and other performances.
- The children will listen to and appreciate range of music from around the world.