

Year 4

Spring Term 1 Curriculum

What's happening in Year 4 this term?

BIG MATHS

We will cover a range of topics this term which will allow the children to apply the number skills taught through the CLIC in BIG MATHS. In order that the children build confidence and develop speed when using their times tables knowledge, we would ask you to seize opportunities to practise and learn both multiplication and division facts, in real life situations. Children will be asked to practise all 72 Learn its and be able to recall them in 200 seconds.

Focus - All four number operations and fractions. Children will work towards mastering these skills and applying them in a variety of ways.

ENGLISH/TOPIC

The title of our Imaginative Learning Project this term is **Blue Abyss**. In English, we will look at a range of genres and text types such as: adventure stories and non-chronological reports. We will focus specifically on the skills of: speech, using fronted adverbials e.g. *In the winter, ...* or *Outside my house, ...*) and the use of extended noun phrases (*the cheerful child* instead of *the child*). The children will be reading a text called 'Oliver and the seawigs' and creating their own narrative. We will be studying and writing poems about the sea. Children will also write a non-chronological report about a sea creature. The children will continue to develop their phonological awareness through the 'Get Spelling' programme.

In geography we will learn about the seas and oceans of the world, find out about the Great Barrier Reef (the only living thing visible from space!) and investigate environmental issues linked to the oceans.

In Art & design/design and technology we will study the works of J. Vincent Scarpace and make our own observational drawings of sea creatures; find out about Cornelius Drebbel (inventor of the first submarine) and create a model demonstrating how a submarine works; create a sea scape and hold a sea creature art exhibition.

In Science we will develop our own classification criterion for creatures found in seas and oceans; use branching databases to sort creatures into existing groups; use scientific enquiry skills to ask and answer questions about the crown of thorns starfish. We will also research food chains of sea creatures and consider the effects of limited availability within the chain; study adaptations and select appropriate ways to present our findings; recognise the impact that changing environments can have on living things.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Throughout this term PE sessions take place two sessions a week. This will change for each class and could be Monday, Wednesday or Thursday. Children will work with our specialist sports coach, who will develop the children's ball skills through team games and skill activities. Weather permitting, one session will mainly take place outside, so in addition to their normal PE kits of yellow T-shirt and royal blue shorts children may wear, black/blue jogging bottoms, sweatshirts and trainers. **Ear-rings must be removed and long hair tied up for both sessions.**

MUSIC

On Tuesday afternoons, children will have music lessons with our specialist music teacher.

HOMEWORK

MONDAY	Please listen to your child read, encourage them to write a comment and write in their record book.
TUESDAY	Your child will be set 'Learn Its' Maths homework.
WEDNESDAY	Please listen to your child read, encourage them to write a comment and write in their record book.
THURSDAY	Your child will be set Maths homework to be completed by the next Thursday.
FRIDAY	New spellings sent home For topic children will choose from several activities They will need to complete this as independently as possible.

READING RECORD

Please record when you hear your child read at home and indicate when they have finished and discussed the book by writing END or FINISHED. Please remember to tally the amount of books your child has read. Children are given time to change their book at 12:15pm and when possible during the afternoon. Please encourage children to write a positive comment in their reading record each time they read.

COULD YOU PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD BRINGS THEIR READING BOOK AND RECORD EVERY DAY.

Thanks for your co-operation and support,
Miss Russell, Mrs Barley and Mr Trivasse.

Reminders

1. P.E. kits are needed Monday, Wednesday and Thursday
2. Homework books should be in school every day.
3. Practise spellings every week.
4. Bring in completed topic work by 9th February