

# 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 (+, -, x and ÷) 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.

You can help your child to develop their knowledge of the topic by looking at an atlas or globe together, watching 'Blue Planet' or maybe visiting the Sealife Centre as a family.

## **PHYSICAL EDUACTION**

Throughout this term PE sessions take place on Wednesday afternoons. 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.

On Thursdays the children will undertake swimming lessons from swimming instructors at the local swimming baths. All children need a swimming cap and a towel. Girls need a one-piece swimming costume and boys preferably need swimming trunks, or alternatively shorts that are well above the knee and not too baggy. Please put everything in a separate bag each Thursday. Goggles may be worn for medical reasons and will require an accompanying note from parents or guardians.

**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**

New spellings sent home

### **TUESDAY**

Please listen to your child read, encourage them to write a comment and write in their record book.

### **WEDNESDAY**

Your child will be set 'Learn Its' Maths homework.

### **THURSDAY**

Please listen to your child read, encourage them to write a comment and write in their record book.

### **FRIDAY**

Your child will be set Maths homework to be completed by the next Thursday.

Many Thanks – Mrs Barley, Mr Trivasse and Mrs Howell