

Curriculum Newsletter 2019 Summer Term

Year 4

English

In English, the children are studying books by Charles Dickens as a whole class to broaden their knowledge of classical literature. The children will continue to focus on spelling, grammar, punctuation and handwriting, with particular emphasis on sentence structure and developing their ability to write as a reader.

Maths

Throughout the term, the children will be applying their knowledge of calculation, shape and measure by problem solving and carrying out investigations. A big emphasis will be placed on the rapid recall of times tables and number bonds and being able to explain the relationship between numbers.

Topic

'The History of British Fashion': Our history based topic investigates factors which have influenced the changes in fashion from 1066 to today. Children will build their understanding of years that are referred to when a period in time is called the 14th Century or the 21st Century etc. – they may find it confusing and think the 19th Century begins at 1900 rather than 1800. We will be discussing all of the different influences of fashion on the people during these times (particularly the rich). We will think about the materials, designs and colour used, and why they are/are not available for us to see today. They will look at this chronologically and be exposed to different evidence sources. We will conclude by asking the children what time period they might like to time travel back to! In Art the children will look at the work of William Morris, born in 1834, from his rich fabric designs to repeating wallpaper patterns and in DT the children will be designing their own Tie-Dye T-shirts.

Home Learning

You could help your child at home be reading other books by Charles Dickens, discussing the characters and comparing the stories. You will be able to find child friendly versions of stories like Oliver Twist or a Christmas Carol. You could also find fascinating information about the life of Charles Dickens and discuss whether any of the stories are linked to his personal experiences.

You could help your child to research the History of British Fashion during the Tudor, Victorian and War years. They could make a poster advertising the fashion of their favourite era.

Web links:

Tudors <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/tudors/clothes.htm>

Victorians <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/victorians/clothes.html>

WW2 <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/war/fashion.htm>

20th Century Fashion <https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/history/fashion/20th-century-fashion/>

Museum Visit - If you are planning a trip to London, why not visit Room 40 at the V&A Museum to see the rare 17th century gowns, 18th century dresses, 1930s eveningwear, 1960s daywear and post-war clothing.