

# Class 4 Curriculum Newsletter

## April 2018



Hello and welcome back to the Summer Term. Over the next few weeks we will be 'Out and About' to support our learning in class – making the most of dry weather to learn outside at school as well as venturing further afield on trips and walks. Here are some upcoming dates for your diaries, some general reminders and a brief review of our learning. If you have any queries or can help support our learning in any of these areas, please contact me.



**Wednesday 2 May: Skipping Competition at Boston Spa**  
**Friday 11 May: rearranged trip to Harlow Carr**

Mrs Carr

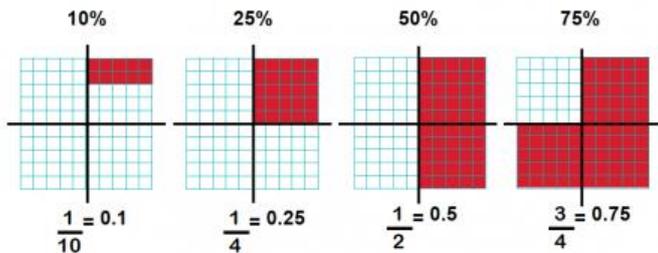


### English & Maths



We are linking much of our English work to our learning in science – writing about famous naturalists and writing instructions for looking after plants and animals. We will focus on the organisation and structure of non-fiction writing as well as continuing to use a range of sentence types. We will also continue to proof read and edit our work for mistakes and to improve it.

We are continuing to focus on working with decimals in maths; this half term's KIRF is learning fraction – decimal (and percentage) equivalents. We will also be calculating with decimals when working with money and measures. Children will need to consolidate their understanding of place value and the importance of the decimal point as a way of recording part of a whole number. Please support your child in learning these equivalences, particularly:



### Out and About



Our science work this half term focusses on the life processes and life cycles of plants and animals. We have already planted some willow, beans, money plants and potatoes to observe their growth and we have been investigating what living things can be found in the school grounds – a surprising array! (Our workshop 'Plant Hunters' on our trip to Harlow Carr will also support our work.)

In geography, we will work on revising coordinates and using four figure grid references, as well as learning about rivers and charting the course of the River Wharfe. We hope to get out into Thorp Arch to undertake some field work as well.

In art, we will look at sculptures that have been inspired by the natural world including those by the artists Andy Goldsworthy and Steve Blacklock. (We will see some of Steve Blacklock's sculptures on our trip to Harlow Carr.)

For D&T, we will design and make a picnic tart – which could be eaten outside. We will look at some examples, consider what savoury ingredients work well together and then make some towards the end of half term.

In PE, we will be skipping and skipping and skipping! The competition is fast approaching and we are working on our skipdance as well as training for the different skills too.



### Homework

\*Writing homework is set on alternate Wednesdays. Children are expected to spend about 45 minutes on these writing tasks.

\*Weekly KIRF challenges are on Wednesdays. Mental Maths homework books will be checked for mental maths practise at home. (Please also encourage them to continue to use *Mathletics*, certificates are presented on Thursdays.)

\*Reading records will be checked every Thursday. Children should be reading every day. Please listen to your child read, ask them about what they have read and sign/initial their reading records.

\*Spelling tests take place on Fridays and spellings are given out for the following Friday as well.



### RE, Music, French

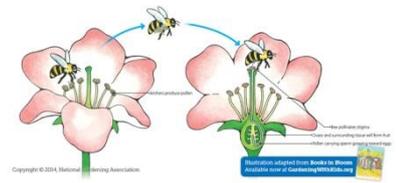


As before Christmas, Mrs Porter will teach Class 4 on Thursday afternoons. She will be teaching RE: *What does it mean for Muslims to follow God?* This unit of work will continue throughout the whole summer term, looking at the five pillars of Islam, how Muslims live their lives and will hopefully be supported by a Muslim visitor to school next half term.

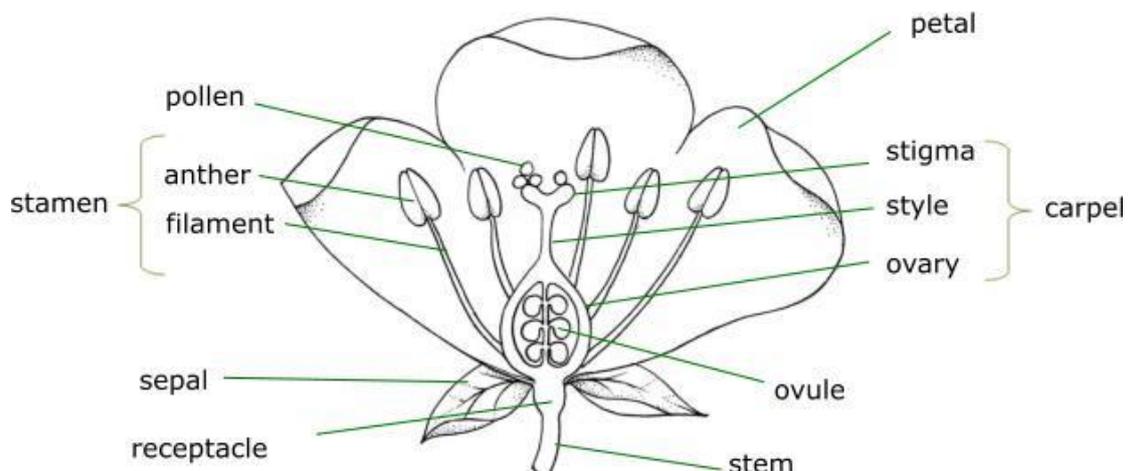
Ukulele lessons will continue on Wednesday mornings with Mr Rowe. Over the next few weeks we will be learning and perfecting four songs for the Big Play concert at Leeds Town Hall on Tuesday 19 June.

On Wednesday mornings with Miss Cody, we will revise our knowledge of likes and dislikes and learn to talk about our hobbies, including the phrases *je fais...* (I do) and *je joue...* (I play).

# Parts of a Plant Vocabulary



<b>STEM</b>	the main body or stalk of a plant/shrub which often supports fruit, flowers or leaves
<b>ROOT</b>	the part of a plant normally below ground, which acts as a support and collects water and nutrients
<b>LEAF</b>	a (usually) flattened structure of a plant, typically green and blade-like, in which photosynthesis mainly takes place to produce energy
<b>FLOWER</b>	the seed-bearing part of a plant, including the reproductive organs and typically surrounded by brightly coloured petals and sepals
<b>PETAL</b>	segments of a flower, usually brightly coloured and shaped to attract bees and other insects (but not always)
<b>SEPAL</b>	the outside of a flower, usually green, which enclose the petals when the flower is a bud
<b>STAMEN</b>	the male part of a flower, including the anther and filament
<b>ANTHER</b>	the top part of the stamen which contains the pollen
<b>FILAMENT</b>	the slender part of a stamen which supports the anther
<b>POLLEN</b>	a powdery substance released from the male part of a flower
<b>CARPEL</b>	the female reproductive part of a plant, including the ovary, stigma and style
<b>STIGMA</b>	the part of the carpel which receives pollen during pollination
<b>STYLE</b>	the narrow part of the carpel which connects the stigma and the ovary
<b>OVARY</b>	the base of the carpel of a flower, containing one or more ovules
<b>OVULE</b>	the part of the ovary of a seed-plant which becomes the seed after fertilisation
<b>NECTARY</b>	the gland in a flower which secretes the nectar
<b>NECTAR</b>	a sugary fluid which is secreted within flowers to encourage pollination by insects, and is collected by bees to make into honey
<b>POLLINATION</b>	the transfer of pollen from the stamens to the stigma to enable fertilisation of a plant; this can be achieved by wind, animals, insects...
<b>FERTILISATION</b>	the process of causing the development of a new plant (seed)
<b>REPRODUCTION</b>	the process of creating a new copy of ...



# **River Vocabulary**

*... a large natural stream of water emptying into an ocean or lake...*



**CHANNEL**

Where a river flows. It has a bed and two banks.

**CONDENSATION**

Water vapour changes to a liquid when cooled.

**CURRENT**

The flow of water in a certain direction.

**DOWNSTREAM**

In the direction of a stream's current.

**EMBANKMENTS**

A raised river bank to prevent flooding.

**EROSION**

The wearing away and removal of rocks by rivers.

**EVAPORATION**

Liquid water changes to water vapour when it is warmed.



**FLOOD PLAIN**

The flat area at the bottom of a valley which is often flooded.

**GORGE**

A steep sided valley.

**MEANDER**

A large bend in a river.

**MOUTH**

Where the river meets the sea or lake.



**PRECIPITATION**

Water in any form which falls to earth. (rain, sleet, hail and snow)

**RIVER BASIN**

An area of land drained by a river and its tributaries.

**SOURCE**

Where a river begins.

**TRIBUTARY**

A small river which flows into a bigger river.

**UPSTREAM**

In the opposite direction of the stream's current.

**V-SHAPED**

A valley which has been eroded by a river so that its cross-section looks like the letter V.

**VALLEY**

**WATER CYCLE**

The never-ending movement of water between sea, land and air.

**WATERFALLS**

A sudden fall of water over a steep drop.

