



# The Curriculum at a Glance – Spring Term



Year: 4

Teachers: Mrs Culham & Miss Farrell

Here are the subjects your child will be taught and some ways that you can help. You can discuss this information further by making an appointment with the class teacher.

## Key Subjects

**Reading** – The children continue to be assessed to ensure their reading age and level is progressing. The children continue to be grouped accordingly for Guided Reading sessions and will have a reading book sent home every evening. Your child will either read with the class teacher during a Guided Reading session or the teaching assistant in class. We encourage children to read widely for pleasure and to supplement their learning.

**Writing** – We encourage the children to develop a fluent handwriting style and are expected to be able to join their letters in a neat and legible way. Weekly spellings will be set for homework and the children will be tested weekly. There is also a national drive on grammar and the children will have weekly grammar lessons to support the writing process. Throughout the week they will be expected to produce different styles of writing across a range of subjects. They will also produce a piece of independent writing every other week in 'Big Write', which will be assessed by the teacher. Children will follow the Power of Reading scheme in English this year. In addition, English is taught cross-curricular through History, Geography and Science.

**Mathematics** – There will be a big focus on calculation and basic number skills in Mathematics. The children will be taught how to use a range of mental and written strategies to add, subtract, divide and multiply numbers and apply this knowledge to solve problems and puzzles. We will also be concentrating on shape and area this term. Please ensure that your child is learning their **times tables up to 12x12**. Each week the children will sit a mental arithmetic test to develop quick thinking skills. They will also be regularly tested on their times tables, including the division facts.

**PE** – PE will be taught twice a week and will cover a range of indoor and outdoor sports developing the children's core skills; spatial awareness, balance, co-ordination, agility, endurance and fairness.

### How you can help

Read regularly with your child and discuss the book read – use question prompts on bookmarks to support you with this. Help them with their times tables/ mental maths strategies to add and subtract at speed. Always check they have done their homework and have a **full** P.E kit in school every week.

## Humanities

**Geography** – We will be looking at Earthquakes and Volcanoes, the children will explore the dynamism of the earth, learning about the structure of the earth, looking particularly at the causes and distribution of earthquakes and volcanoes and their effects on landscape and people.

**RE** – This term children will be learning about Islam and Christianity.

### How you can help

Visit local places of worship, museums or other places of interest to develop the children's knowledge and understanding of the world around them past and present. Research subjects being taught at school either by using the Internet or the library. Children can develop their geographical knowledge through discussions and by exploring atlases.

## Sciences

**Science** – The children will be developing their scientific enquiry skills; observing, measuring, fair testing, recording and evaluating across a range of topics; which include sound this term. This term they'll be exploring Sound and Electricity.

**Computing** – The children will develop a range of computing skills including; typing, coding and PowerPoint, as well as researching using the internet safely. The children will use Mathletics to further develop their Mathematics skills and Purple Mash for cross-curricular links to other subjects.

**D&T** – Our D.T projects will link to the History and Geography topics we are studying throughout the year, using materials such as clay, card and fabrics.

### How you can help

Always be aware of what your child is doing on a computer and use adult filters. Encourage them to research topics or make a PowerPoint about what they are studying. If you have time, please try to visit museums, nature reserves or other places of scientific interest to encourage the children to look at science in the world around them.

## Arts

**Art** – We will be continuing to look at the Pop Art movement, in particular cityscapes and Charles Fazzino, we will be exploring some of the skills used, recreating our own 3D examples in the Pop Art style. We will also be linking our Art topic to Geography, where we will be making our own volcano.

**Music** – We will be looking at a range of different types of music from around the world and developing the children's musical skills; timing, pitch and tone. Some children will also attend music lessons and the school orchestra outside of class time to develop their skills further.

### How you can help

Encourage your children to be creative at home. If they have a special talent encourage them to share it with us at school. If learning an instrument, ensure your child continues to practise regularly at home.

## Languages

**French** – Children will be covering a range of topics including colours, numbers, daily activities, and applying the language into real life scenarios.

## Other Information

**PE Information** – Year 4 have P.E on Thursday and one other day of the week which may vary due to weather restrictions.

**Homework Information** – Homework is set on Fridays. Please try to complete it by the following Thursday. Reading is also very important and should take place **every evening** for at least ten minutes.

**School Trips/Visits** - A letter will be sent out regarding educational trips nearer the time.