



## Year Four Spring Term 1

### English

This half term we will be using Talk for Writing to learn a conquering the monster tale. An extract from 'Varjak Paw' will be used for this. We will use the suspense toolkit to innovate and create an independent piece of writing.

Our non-fiction focus text will be 'Why you should not go into the forest' and this will lead into the children writing their own explanation text.

We will be

- showing characters feelings through their actions.
- choosing verbs that connect to emotions or threats.
- using dramatic fronted adverbials and remembering our comma.
- using conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause
- planning, drafting and evaluating their written text
- to use simple organisation devices
- to use conjunctions and generalisers for a range of reasons.

### Mathematics

As we enter the Spring 1 term, our initial focus will be multiplication and division. Within this unit, we will be using written methods to multiply. We will be multiplying 2-digit and 3-digit numbers by a 1-digit number and solving a range of mixed multiplication problems.

We will then move on to dividing 2 and 3-digit number and solving division problems with remainders. After this, children will learn how to calculate area.

We will be learning about fractions, equivalent fractions, how to simplify a fraction and fractions greater than 1.

We will be practising times-tables regularly throughout the school day as we continue to prepare for the Multiplication Time-Tables Check in the summer term.

### Vocabulary

multiply, divide, multiplication fact, division fact, lots of, groups of, times-table, array, remainder, area, fraction, equivalent, simplify

### Science

During our new Science unit, electricity, the children will learn to sort common electrical appliances into battery and main powered. They will construct a simple series circuit containing a variety of components and understand the different between complete and incomplete circuits. They will be able to identify whether or not a bulb will light in a simple series circuit and put forward ideas to fix incomplete circuits. They will plan and conduct an investigation to discover which materials make good insulators and design, construct and test their own switches.

### Key Vocabulary

Battery, circuit, component, conductor, current, electrical, insulator, mains power, portable, pylon, switch.

### Geography

Our Geography topic this half term is 'Does it really matter if tectonic plates move?'

In this topic, we will be describing key aspects of physical geography and identifying some of the characteristics of areas where volcanoes are formed and earthquakes occur. We will learn how the Earth has an inner and outer core, a mantle and a crust and how earthquakes occur and volcanoes can form or erupt when tectonic plates move. We will find out how real geographers and scientists measure the magnitude of earthquakes, and we will look at the impact natural disasters can have on communities.

### Key Vocabulary

volcano, earthquake, tectonic plates, natural disaster, crust, magnitude, active, dormant, core, crust, tsunami

### Religious Education

Our R.E unit for the next term focuses on values, thinking about what matters most, exploring right and wrong with Christians and Humanists.

This unit enables pupils to identify and investigate values in human life and think about their own values.

### Key Vocabulary

Love, forgiveness, peace, honesty, prayer, worship, fellowship, integrity, rationally, love for truth, personal responsibility, atheism, choice, good, bad, right, wrong, morality, value, consequences.

### Physical Education

We will continue to use the Real PE schemes this half term - core real PE and real gym.

Our fundamental movement skills will be dynamic balance on a line and coordination of ball skills. Our focus will be cognitive skills as they develop an awareness of what they have done well and how to further improve, and an awareness of space and others to make good decisions.

### Key vocabulary

agility, cooperate, feedback, static balance, dynamic balance, coordination, space

### Spanish

In Year 4, we are learning Spanish using the iLanguages scheme. This half term, we will continue learning how to say parts of the body, colours, and adjectives to describe nouns.

### Music

In music, Mr Lewis will continue working with the children using the clarinets.

**Personal, Social and Emotional development.**

'My healthy body' and 'Caring for my body' will be our PSHE topics this half term and next. We will be learning about dental health and the benefits of good oral hygiene and about personal hygiene and germs including; bacteria, viruses, how they are spread and treated, and the importance of handwashing. Simple self-care techniques will be explored and children will discuss how mental wellbeing is a normal part of daily life, in the same way as physical health.

We will learn about the risks associated with an inactive lifestyle and the benefits of rationing time spent online on their own devices.

We will also discuss Importance of sufficient good quality sleep.

**How can you help at home?**

\*Please encourage your child to participate in our Redscope Reading Challenge. We have a range of fantastic age-appropriate books which are perfect to share as a family. All children should be reading for 15 minutes at least three times per week and these sessions should be logged in their planner.

\*All children will be given appropriate spellings during the week. These may be topic related words or link to a spelling rule they have learnt throughout the week. Please support your child in learning their spellings at home.

\*In maths, please encourage your child to TTRockstars. Garage challenges and Rockstar battles will be available for the children to practise their target times tables.

\*During Spring 1 term, all children should complete a project from the homework menu that they are interested in. We have discussed possibilities with the children and a list of some ideas have been attached in their planner.

If you do have any questions about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to contact us through our class dojos.