



Year 4/5 Curriculum Newsletter – Spring Term 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas. Please find below a summary of Year 4 and 5's main learning areas for this term along with some general reminders.

English

The children's learning this term will be focussed around our new text 'Survivors'. This book contains 21 short true stories about explorers and adventurers who have survived an incredible journey/ situation. To begin, we have been looking at how to debate and the children were able to demonstrate their debating skills, which were fantastic! Moving on from this, the children will look at how to use causal conjunctions in their writing to express their point of view. They will then write a persuasive piece to argue their opinion on which route the explorers should take. After this, the children will write in the role of an explorer writing a letter to his family. We will then move on to read a different short story and explore more writing techniques and genres.

Maths

We begin the school year focussing on multiplication and division in Maths and will move on to further enhance our understanding of fractions.

In Year 4, we will be focusing on multiplication and division. We begin by looking at multiplying by 10 and 100, as well as dividing by 10 and 100. This will then lead on to multiplying two digits by 1-digit numbers both informally and formally (using an expanded and short method).

In Year 5, we are beginning the year by further enhancing our understanding of multiplication and division. The children will begin by multiplying 3-digit numbers by 1-digit and then move onto multiplying 2, 3 and 4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers. They will then learn the method of short division and divide 4-digit numbers by 1-digit.

Homework

Spellings will be handed out on a Wednesday to be returned the following Monday. We expect the children to learn their spellings as they will have spelling quizzes in the week. They will also be expected to use the spellings in their writing. They need to be writing their spellings and sentences in pencil unless told otherwise.

For **Maths** homework, the children will be using Maths-Whizz (www.whizz.com), an online Maths education website that is tailored to each individual child. Maths-Whizz will start each **Monday**, and **45 minutes** must be completed by each **Sunday** evening. If your child does not have access to the internet, there will be a homework club after school where they can complete their Maths-Whizz homework (please refer to the after school club letter for dates and times). They also need to complete 15 minutes TT rock stars (<https://ttrockstars.com/>) each week. In addition, children are required to practise multiplication tables and division facts to aid rapid recall. Every week, there will be an informal check as part of the maths lesson.

In Year 4 and 5, children need to read for the equivalent of at least 15 minutes every school night (it might be that some nights they read more than other nights) and complete 5 reads and a book talk. They need to complete their reading record each time they read. We would very much appreciate you listening to your child read and discussing their book with them. The children (or parent) should write a comment in their book and we request that you sign your child's reading record book. This will really help them to progress in reading and

writing. We will be checking your child's reading diary regularly throughout the week. The children will then quiz on AR (accelerated reader) where we can track their comprehension progress.

P.E.

Year 4 and 5 will have PE sessions every **Friday** morning with Mr Franco (both indoors and outdoors). However, other sessions may arise throughout the week so please ensure your child has their PE kit in school at all times, and are prepared for the unpredictable weather. PE kit is a plain white t-shirt or polo shirt, black or navy shorts, black or navy joggers and an outdoor jumper (when the weather requires it), outdoor trainers (these must be different shoes to the ones your child wears to school) and a water bottle.

Science

To begin with, Year 4 and 5 are going to be learning about electricity. Initially, they will explore what electricity is and how it was discovered before looking more closely at appliances that run on electricity. Once the children have a firm understanding of this, they will look at the scientists who invented life-changing appliances and conduct their own research to complete a fact file. As the term continues, the children will then look at the practical side of this unit and make their own electrical circuits.

If you have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher. There will be fortnightly curriculum newsletters in which we shall keep you updated and informed about our learning, particularly with regards to English and Maths. We shall also provide any extra details you will need, such as changes to timetables, notifications, etc.

We are looking forward to an exciting term ahead, thank you in advance for your continued support.

Mrs Smith, Mrs Burns and Mrs R.

Year 4 and 5 Topic – Spring Term 2023



Topic

Our topic this term is all about explorers, both early explorers and those from the modern day.



Computing

This term the children will be looking at Online Safety. They will focus on online protection, communication, reputation, online bullying and online health.



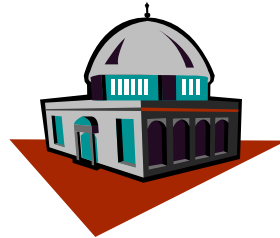
History

The children will be learning about the lives of a range of different explorers and how they discovered new lands. They will learn what it was like to be an explorer and some of the things that were discovered.



Art

This term, the children will be looking at some famous artists. They will also create a portrait of a famous explorer of their choice. They will need to think about proportion, facial features and positionings.



RE

This term, the children will begin by learning about Sikhism. Their learning will take a journey through their key beliefs, the 5Ks and the Gurdwara. The children will then compare Sikhism to a contrasting religion.



Music

The children will be taking part in singing assemblies every week. During our topic, the children will listen to music from different countries explorers have visited.



Design Technology

The children will be making their own sling shot cars. They will use a variety of equipment to make the chassis and they will design their car, thinking about the importance of air resistance.



Geography

The children's geography this term will be linked to their explorers topic. They will look at the voyages the explorers took and will use maps to plot their journeys.



PSHE

This term, the children will be focussing on wellbeing and keeping healthy. Every day, the children will complete a daily mile or a wake and shake with Mrs Smith.