

Welcome to Year 4! Here is some information about our learning this term.



@FarnworthAshton

In Year 4!

During our English lessons this term, we will focus on *Gorilla* by Anthony Browne, exploring the features of a narrative. We will be taking part in drama activities, sharpening our note-taking skills, learning all about adverbials and recapping how to write speech. We will also place great emphasis on expanding and broadening children's vocabulary as they work towards creating their own narrative based on our class story. At home it would be helpful to look at a range of fantasy stories with your child, comparing and contrasting the features. The children could practise writing stories using their imagination.

As well as this, we will be looking at a beautiful story by Grahame Baker Smith and Angela McAllister after half term. We will consider how atmosphere is created with adverbials and noun phrases, create descriptions using nouns and conjunctions and focus on the use of diaries, using this to write a recount. To support at home, the children could practise recounting their favourite stories or films to help them think about how to sequence events and ensure that their writing flows.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwwp8mn/articles/zp937p3>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwwp8mn/articles/z3nfw6f>

We are continuing to use Reading Plus to develop the children's reading and comprehension skills. In addition to this we hope that the children will read for pleasure as often as they can. Please encourage the children to read as wide a range of genres as possible as this will really help them to develop their understanding. Following recipes, reading comics or magazines and instructions are great ways to include your children in the reading process.

Spellings

In spelling we will be looking at how to add suffixes and prefixes to root words and how it changes the meaning of the word. We will send home weekly spelling activities and continue to encourage children to learn their Year 3/4 statutory spellings.

Our first music topic is *Mamma Mia*, based on the music of Abba- this could be a great opportunity to dig out those Abba tracks enjoy some time listening to them together. We will follow this by developing our glockenspiel skills.

DT

This term we will be using nets to make 3D structures. Search the BBC and IET online with the prefix "ks2 nets" for activities to explore at home!

In Art we will be focusing on drawing figures in action. The children could collect images of people moving in different ways. These will be really useful for their sketchbooks in school. They may also like to take photographs of themselves when involved in different physical activities so that they can study how to represent movement in their drawings. We will also be painting this term and we will be examining the effect light and shade has on our work.

In Maths this term we will be focusing on the following areas:

- Place Value
- Addition and Subtraction
- Multiplication
- Perimeter

Throughout Year 4, we also place great emphasis on Times Tables. By the end of Year 4 it is expected that children should know, with fluency and speed, up to the 12x tables. We will have challenges throughout the week to keep children up to speed as well as focussing a large chunk of our teaching on this topic, as noted above.

Below are some great websites to use when practising!
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<https://trockstars.com/>

Oak academy

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-year/year-4>

Autumn learning links on the White Rose website

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning?year=year-4>

You could also look at the activities on Splash Learn

<https://uk.splashlearn.com/maths-skills/year-4>

In French, pupils will develop their speaking and listening skills as they find out about how to order food and drink 'Au Café'. Why not have fun role playing café scenarios at home? Maybe the children could design and make their own menus or price lists to use in your imaginary cafes. Linguascope.com is a fantastic resource to guide your child at home in furthering their confidence with the French language. Login details are available in class.

PSHE

Our topic "being in my world" focuses on being a team player and our responsibilities in making our school community a better place
After half term we will move onto "Celebrating differences" and look at what it means to be unique and why we should celebrate peoples similarities and differences.

In Science the children will study the digestive system and teeth:

https://sciencetrek.org/sciencetrek/topics/digestive_system/games.cfm

After half term we will look at Living things and their habitats which will include finding out about how we classify different species. It may help to look at these links:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z6wwxb/articles/zyq9r2p>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z6wwxb/articles/zdt2jsg>

During RE lessons this term the children will learn about God, David and then we will also study Christmas and light:

<https://www.reonline.org.uk/resources/christian-symbol-of-light/>

and Hannukah.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/znwhfg8/articles/zj446v4>

In Humanities we will be learning about Italy in Geography for the first half-term. It would be wonderful if the children could find out some interesting facts about Italy at home. A specific area that we would like the children to focus on would be to compare the cities of Liverpool and Rome.

After the half-term break we will be discovering our local town of Widnes in History. If you have any old photos of the local area hidden away in your attics it would be great if you could share them with the children. Also a walk around the local area would be an interesting activity, encouraging the children to look for old buildings and trying to work out their age and function.

Computing

In Computing the children will be given the opportunity to use software such as excel. They will learn about the concept of a branching database and create their own using presentation software.

After half term, the children will also be given the opportunity to learn more about computer science and how to use repetition and loops when coding using applications such as Scratch.

In P.E. this term we will be focusing on football in our outdoor sessions, where we will be supported in our learning by professional football coach, Mr Kay. We will also look at how to look after our health and wellbeing. We will also develop our handball skills. In our indoor sessions we will be working on our fitness skills and looking at how we train our muscles and keep ourselves fit.