



Year 4 Autumn 2 Newsletter



Coming up in Autumn 2



Rhythm of the Rain

How do you know that something is real?



This half term, we will be thinking about the water in our world; where does it come from and where does it go? In Science and Geography, we will be exploring the Water Cycle, setting up our own mini Water Cycle experiments, taking part in performances to demonstrate what happens at each stage and putting out Rain Gauges to collect rainfall data for us to analyse. We will create our own waterfall style booklets to show our understanding of the Water Cycle process and all the expert words we are now confident to use! We will also be creating poetic descriptions of how water travels, and will use watercolours to illustrate the final published piece!

Our Science journey will continue as we move on to learn about Sound. We explore volume and pitch by setting up our own experiments and by using Boomwhackers. At the end of this unit, we will make our own musical instruments from recycled materials to consolidate everything we've learnt!

Thank you for your continued support! ☺

Year 4 Team

Our **English learning** will focus on the essential reading skill of retrieving and recording information from a text whether it is a fiction or non-fiction piece. Moving onto inferring character's feelings from their actions. When we are writing, we will be learning more about using subordinating conjunctions within sentences. For example: *As the sun goes down, the foxes come out to play.* To help our spelling accuracy we will be practising checking spellings using a dictionary.

Our **Mathematics learning** will include perfecting use of the 'grid method' for multiplying 3 and 4 digit numbers. This will require quick and accurate recall of times tables facts. Our focus multiplication and division facts tables will be the 6, 7 and 9 times tables (but we will still be practicing the facts from the 3, 4 and 8 times tables). Also this half term, we will be reading and writing analogue and digital times, as well as converting between analogue and digital 12 hour clock.

Our Personal and Development Learning (SCARF) unit is:



Me and My Relationships

The key learning points are:

- Linked to Anti-bullying, give examples of strategies to respond to being bullied, including what people can do and say and understand and give examples of who or where pressure to behave in an unhealthy, unacceptable or risky way might have come from
- Describing good and not good feelings and how feelings can affect our physical state
- Understand what a 'positive, healthy relationship' is
- Recognise that there are times when you might need to say 'no' to a friend and developing strategies to do this
- Define successful qualities of teamwork and collaboration
- Identify a range of feelings and recognise that different people can have different feelings in the same situation
- Demonstrate a range of feelings through their facial expressions

and body language and recognise that their feelings might change once they have further information

Dates for your Year 4 diary

Week 5 – Visit from Father Jeremy (tbc)

Wednesday 13th December – KS2 Christmas Performance

How you can support your child's learning at home



Reading

Please encourage your child to fill in their weekly reading diaries. It would be great if you can also encourage them to read a wide range of texts to improve their vocabulary and understanding. You can also ask your child questions about the texts they have read, especially where they need to have inferred ('read between the lines') to understand.

Writing and Spelling

When your child is writing, ask them to read back what they have written. Encourage them to self-edit any punctuation errors and changes with a purple 'polishing' pen or pencil. To help your child to improve the quality of their writing, encourage them to use exciting adjectives!

As well as our fortnightly spelling tasks, please continue to regularly practise the Year 3 and 4 Common Exception words to help your child make good progress with their targets. This can be done using a hands on approach, using Sumdog games, verbal recall or recommended online games. ☺

Mathematics

It is vitally important for your child to practise their multiplication facts, up to 12 x 12 as regularly as possible. Use a wide variety of strategies to make this fun; we have provided links to all sorts of games in addition to SumDog and have paper packs on request. In Autumn 2, we are consolidating x6, x7, x9 and x11 facts.

Help your child to develop their time skills by encouraging them to tell the time on analogue clocks as well as digital. Learners are expected to tell the time to the minute. ☺

Year 4 Messages

Polite reminders:

- Please return the **Home Learning book** and **library book/s** on Wednesdays.
- Please ensure that **water bottles** and **snack pots** are brought in (and taken home) daily.
- Long hair must be tied up and earrings removed or taped for all P.E. sessions.

Find out more about the wonderful learning we did in Autumn 1 on the next page...

Our Learning in Autumn 1

Our Roald Dahl Dress Up Day

We had a great time dressing up as our favourite Roald Dahl characters.



George's Marvellous Medicine Experiments

In English, we wrote about our own medicine for Granny the mean old-grunion! We practised using imperative verbs by following instructions to make a fizzy potion, which then inspired us to turn Grandma into something of our own choice. Using time phrases along with exciting adverbs and verbs we improved our writing skills.



The Crafty Chocolatier workshop!

To celebrate Roald Dahl's 107th birthday, we took part in an amazing Crafty Chocolatier Workshop with Kerry! Inspired by Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory, and linking to our Science 'States of Matter' learning, we became professional chocolatiers and made our own chocolate pizzas.

We learnt how chocolate changes state when it is melted and cooled. First, Kerry melted the chocolate at 45 degrees so that it changed from a **solid** to a **liquid**. We then tempered (waited for the chocolate to cool) until it was 35 degrees. We could then pour it to make a pizza base!

We created our own pizzas by adding a range of fun toppings, each one different from another! For the chocolate to set, we needed to put our pizzas in the fridge (at 5 degrees) so that the **liquid** chocolate turned back in to a **solid**!



Quentin Blake inspired ink drawing

