



Year 4 Spring Term

Welcome back to school! I hope you have all had a lovely time celebrating with friends and family. Thank you to all of the children and also parents for all of your hard work during the Autumn term. We have had an amazing start to year 4 and the children have produced lots of great work. We have many fun-filled activities planned for the children including walks to the local river and workshops from the River Trust. Remember to look at the latest news on <https://gillibrand.lancs.sch.uk/> to see updates of what we get up to in Year 4!

Important Dates:

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Tuesday 16th January – River Trust talk

Thursday 18th January - Rock Kidz Day (dress up as Rock Star)

Tuesday 6th February – Online safety day

Thursday 8th February- School Disco (KS2 4.30-5.30pm)

Friday 9th February – Own clothes day

Monday 19th February - STAFF INSET DAY
(School closed)

Friday 23rd February – Y4 Geography Fieldwork

Wednesday 28th February – Parents Evening

Monday 4th March – Book Week

Monday 11th March – Y3 & Y4 Class Assembly
@2.15pm

Thursday 28th March: Own Clothes Day

Thursday 28th March- Finish for Easter



English

In English this half term we will be looking at the book 'Leo and the Gorgon's Curse' by Joe Todd-Stanton. This is a story about a small boy called Arthur who finds buried amongst the treasures in Professor Brownstone's vaults a humble collection of books. Filled with legendary stories from his ancestors, they tell of fearless fighters and unlikely heroes. Venturing into Greek mythology, this is a story full of dangerous challenges, cunning monsters and godly heroes. The children will use the basis of the story to help them re-write an alternative ending possibly using other creatures from Greek Mythology.

The children will also look at Greek Mythology in greater detail and using our non fiction skills, they will be able to write information texts about the Greek heroes and villains.

Reading

Throughout the half term, we will be continuing to do daily guided reading sessions and will be starting our non-fiction unit on 'Do you love bugs?' by Matt Robertson. We will be continuing to develop our comprehension skills and showing our understanding of the texts through a range of activities. For our class novel we will be looking at poems

French

In French this half term the children will be learning basic nouns for the family whilst reinforcing previous knowledge taught. Such as: numbers and how to introduce themselves.

Maths

In Maths, we will be continuing to learn about our multiplications and division facts for 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12 times tables. We will then move on to length and perimeter. The children will use their prior knowledge of centimetres and metres to move onto kilometres using bar models and part-whole models to explore this relationship and support children with their understanding.

Please note, alongside our maths lessons we will have a big focus on times tables and the children will be using TT Rockstars to help them to retain their knowledge. Please can you ensure your child accesses TT Rockstars at home

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/>

Science

In science, we are going to start a new unit called 'Animals including Humans'. Within this unit, the children will learn about the different parts of the digestive system and will do a fun activity called 'chewing to pooing.' We will also be looking at teeth; the different types we have and how to look after them correctly. We will also ask the question: What drinks are more harmful to our teeth?

RE

This half term we will be learning about Islam and how a Muslim shows their commitment to their faith through Ramadan. We will start by looking at the 5 pillars of Islam and what we already know about the religion from our prior knowledge. We will look at: what they are, what they mean and why they are significant to the Islamic faith.

Art

This half term we will be using our rivers topic to drive our art work. Using topography skills to create a simple 3D map to show the River Chor and its features, using Papier Mache.

Topic

We are starting the year off with a geography topic on Rivers. The children will be learning about the different geographical features of rivers and will use key vocabulary to describe the different parts of a river.

We will also be looking at some mapping skills and the children will be using atlases and maps to locate different rivers in the world and then more specifically in the UK. We will also be using digimaps to locate and find different rivers in the UK. We are also going to be looking at OS maps symbols and use these to locate different features on maps. The children will also be going to visit the River Chor and will be looking at the different features which we have learned about.

PSHE

We will be starting with our unit called 'Rights and Responsibilities'. The children will look at people who help them to stay safe and healthy. They will look at people in the community and close relatives who ensure this.

Music

In music this half term we will start to play the recorder using musical notation. We will also be performing 2 part rounds within our singing and we will be listening and responding to musical pieces identifying: *pulse, rhythm, pitch, dynamics, tempo, beat and texture.*

Computing

In Computing we will be looking at using the software Book Creator to create a presentation about our local river. The children will use different skills such as: copying, pasting, recording and retrieving to put together their presentation.

PE

This half term, we will continue to our swimming at All Seasons Leisure Centre. Please ensure children have their swimming kits on **Mondays**.