



Year 4 – Autumn Term 1

I hope you all had a lovely summer and a well earned rest. I am looking forward to getting to know the children. We have so much planned and hope that the children enjoy their first term in year 4! Please remember to look at the latest news on <https://gillibrand.lancs.sch.uk/> and follow us on twitter at [@GPSSycamore](https://twitter.com/GPSSycamore) for weekly updates of what we get up to in Year 4!

Important Dates:

Monday 11th September– KS2 French Day

Wednesday 6th September -Welcome to Year Group– KS1 – 4.30pm and KS2-5pm

Wednesday 11th October – Harvest Festival

Thursday 19th October: Year 5 and 6– Assembly

French

In French, we will start our topic 'Presenting Myself'. Within this topic we will be using simple words, phrases and sentences to introduce ourselves.

English

This half term, we will be looking at fiction and non-fiction. We are starting the year off by looking at the story 'The Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura. This story focuses on the adventures of a little boy as he gains insight into the life of someone living in the Stone Age period

We will then be moving on to look at a non-fiction text. The children will look at non-chronological reports based on our history topic about the Stone Age. They will use texts and research to gain information about this period. The children will share what they have learnt with each other using their speaking and listening skills.

Within our English lessons, we will also be looking at spelling patterns such as adding the prefixes **re, in and im** to root words and will also be looking at adding suffixes such as **-ation, -tion**. We will also look at a number of homophones. Words that are spelt differently but sound the same such as: pear and pair.

Reading

Throughout the half term, we will be continuing to do daily guided reading sessions and will continue to read 'The Wish keeper's Apprentice by Rachel Chivers Khoo. We will be looking at developing our comprehension skills and showing our understanding of the texts through a range of activities.

For our class novel, we will be continuing reading 'The Exploding Life of Scarlet Fife' by Maz Evans as the children are really enjoying the funny and hilarious stories the main character goes on.

Maths

In Maths, this half-term we will begin the half term by looking at number and place value and we will also continue to learn our times tables. We will be looking at recognising the place value of each digit in a 4-digit number and Identifying, representing and estimating numbers using different representations. We will also be Ordering and comparing numbers beyond 1000. After this we will start to use knowledge of column method to add and subtract 4- digits and problem solve using this knowledge.

Science

In science we will start the year off with learning about electricity. The children will learn about different components of an electrical system and will learn how to build a series of electrical circuit using different elements. We will also look at the difference between insulators and conductors through different practical investigations. By the end of the unit, children will use labelled diagrams to show their understanding of what a series circuit looks like.

RE

This term our RE unit is Hindu Dharma and we will be focusing on the question 'What might a Hindu learn through Diwali?' The children will be looking at the story of Rama and Sita and will also explain how and why Hindus celebrate Diwali.

Art

This half term we will be focusing on drawing. The artist that we will base our work on will be Paul Cezanne a French artist and Post-Impressionist painter. We will be looking at how he uses colour to create shade and texture. We will then look at shading to show light and shadow through hatching and cross hatching and the we will start to create our own pictures linked to RE.

History and Geography Unit

Our Histor topic for this half term is 'Stone Age to Iron Age'.

We are going to look at the timeline of key events during the Stone Age through to the Iron Age and will be looking at the differences and similarities between the different periods of time espically within Britain. We will be looking at the question: What changed between the Stone Age, Bronze and Iron Age in Britain and why? We will look at tools, house and we will especially be looking the many stone formations found within Britain. As part of our geography we will be looking at the similarities and differences between Wiltshire (*Stonehenge*) and Isle of Lewis (Callanish Stones)? We will be looking at the geographical regions within Britain and the settlements within this period.

PSHE

This term's topic will be Valuing Differences and how we can resolve conflict within our relationships.

Music

This half term, we are going to link our music to our PHSE topic. We will write and perform a rap that shows how will resolve conflict with the help of Mrs Jones our music specialist.

Computing

In computing, we will begin the year by looking at E-Safety. The children will learn about how to keep safe online and what search engines are suitable for them. We will also look at recognising that some sources are more reliable than others.

PE

This half term, we will start our swimming sessions on a Monday. We will also be completing our net and wall sessions looking at throwing and striking skills.