

Year 4



Autumn 2021

Curriculum Information

English

Reading:

In class reading is taught through **guided reading**, **shared reading** and **reading for pleasure**.

The daily guided reading session is an opportunity for the children to either read with the teacher in a small group or do activities and tasks related to reading. As they have a teacher working with them, this text is usually a bit more challenging than their home reading book.

In addition, there will be many opportunities for shared reading throughout the school day, not just in literacy lessons, but in maths and topic subjects too. This ensures that children are reading for a purpose and understand that reading allows them to access other learning. At the end of the day there is an opportunity to enjoy reading for pleasure when we read the class story.

Your child will be given a reading book to practise reading at home. It is important that they read daily at home, including reading aloud to an adult so that they develop fluency and reading stamina.

Please sign your child's planner when they read to you as 20 reading signatures means a Reading Reward book for your child.

We subscribe to **Bug Club**, so your child can read e-books for free. These are banded in the same way as the reading books in school.

Writing:

Writing is taught through '*Talk for Writing*'. This process starts with the children reading a story or text and understanding its meaning by creating a story map. This story map is then used to help the children learn the story by heart. In doing this they are learning phrases and sentence structures that do not occur in spoken English, but are part of our rich written language. With structured texts as a basis the children then re-invent the story, making changes to suit their own ideas. They are quickly able to see themselves as writers, applying their own phonic knowledge to their work. These texts are from a range of genres:

- **Fiction:** exploring writing quest stories, learning how to sequence events as well as how to layout dialogue. Exploring joining a new school from a refugee's point of view in the text *Christophe's Story*. Form opinions on different characters exploring one situation from different points of view.
- **Non-Fiction:** exploring the language of discussion using a text called *Dr Who* which debates whether Daleks should be allowed to live on earth. Applying the language of discussion to different topics.
- **Poetry:** exploring figurative language, learning about similes and metaphors and applying them into their own poetry
- **Grammar:** the children will be learning to use of nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs to control their writing.

- **Spelling:** pupils will be given 5 - 8 spellings every week, which they are expected to learn. They will write them out each day at school as this is a good way to help them practise and learn their spellings. At home they need to write the word in a sentence in their red book, which is handed in on a so that they understand the context of the word too.
- **Handwriting:** the children will be learning to develop a fluent, joined handwriting style. They will be expected to present all their written work in this style. This aids spelling and speeds writing.

Pupils will be allocated e-book copies of many of the texts read at school. Please log into Wordsmith to share these resources with your child.

Maths

We will be covering:

- **Place value in numbers exploring the value of each digit up to four digit numbers**
- **Mental calculations**
- **Counting in multiples of 6,7, 25 and 1000**
- **Multiplication and division facts**
- **Measurements converting from hour to minutes, minutes to seconds, years to months**

In school we use equipment such as Numicon, beadstrings, counters, tens frames and Cuisenaire rods to help the children understand the number system and to explain their ideas.

At home, you can help your child by supporting them to learn their times tables. In the summer term they will participate in the statutory, online Multiplication Tables Check. More information about this will be shared nearer to the time.

We are continuing to use **Google Classroom** to support our in-school learning. We will share information about class topics and links to resources that can help you support your child's learning. You are welcome to upload photos and comments about activities at home.

Our other topics are:

Science

- In a State: exploring materials, identifying the different properties of solids, liquids and gases
- Human Impact – exploring how humans can have both a negative and a positive impact on the natural environment.

ICT

- **We Are Musicians:** produce digital music
- **We Are Co-authors:** collaborative editing and research

Humanities

- Geography: contrasting Greece to the UK
- History : Ancient Greeks
- RE: Hindu teaching about God and worship in a Hindu home.

Art and Creative Learning

- Art: Using clay to make Greek pots.
- Design and Technology: Pop-up books using levers
- Music: The children will be learning to play the ukulele
- Drama: Literacy based activities

PE

- The children will learn how to play a variety of games and sports including orienteering and cross-country.
- Swimming: Your child will need a swimming kit every Monday.

Homework

Your child's homework will be based around preparing for or consolidating their learning this term. The homework scrap books will be given out at the beginning of each term. Children should complete 9 tasks before the end of term, one from each area. Scrapbooks can be handed in at any time during the term. Spellings will be given out on a Monday and books need to be returned to school on a Friday ready for a spelling test.

Helping your child

There are a number of ways that you can help your child to achieve their full potential at school.

- Aim for 98% attendance and arrive at school on time.
- Give them an appropriate breakfast.
- Make sure they go to bed at a reasonable time (and avoid 'screens' for at least half an hour before bedtime)
- Read them a story and listen to them read.
- Help them to complete their homework and to learn their spellings.
- Help them to learn their times tables.
- Ensure they have all the right equipment for school.

Equipment:

Every day your child should bring to school:

- Named water bottle
- Reading book
- Homework planner
- PE kit (should be left at school throughout the week)