



This half term (Spring 1), Year 4 will be learning about the following topics:

<p>English</p>	<p>Writing This term we will be starting our new topic 'The White Giraffe', Our topic is based on the book The White Giraffe written by Lauren St John. It is about a young girl who has moved from England to live with her Grandmother in South Africa. The children will be writing diary entries imagining that they are Martine the main character in the story. They will be learning about life in South Africa and how it is differs from life in England for Martine and we will be discussing Martine's feelings and expressing these through our writing.</p> <p>Spelling Punctuation and Grammar This term we will be continuing to encourage the children to use ambitious vocabulary in their writing. We will be focusing on using adjectives and adverbs and we will be continuing to learn how to use fronted adverbials in our work. We will be learning about past tense verbs and we will be encouraging the children to use speech in their writing. We will be continuing to have our daily spelling lessons and the children will be sent the spellings from each unit home every other week for them to learn. The words which Year 3 and 4 children are expected to be able to spell correctly are attached at the end of the newsletter for your information.</p>
<p>Maths</p>	<p>This term in Maths we will be continuing to practise using written methods for multiplication and division. Will will learn about decimal fractions such as tenths and hundredths. We will also learn about metric units of length, mass and capacity, as well as finding out how to measure the perimeter and area of a shape. We will practise interpreting bar charts and pictograms and answering questions about them. In geometry, we will learn about line symmetry, and how to compare angles.</p>
<p>Science</p>	<p>In Science, we will be learning all about Sound. We will be studying how sound travels and we will be looking at the inside of the ear. We will be carrying out investigations to help us learn about sound and we will be learning how to plan and carry out a fair test.</p>
<p>Computing</p>	<p>Please see: espressocoding.co.uk Username: Student 22386 Password: davyhulme Please look at our school website to access our Year 4 Blog.</p>
<p>Topic (Geography)</p>	<p>We will be linking our Geography work to our topic 'The White Giraffe'. We will be looking at South Africa and carrying out Atlas work to see the different cities in South Africa in particular Cape Town. We will be looking at the different types of animals that may be found in the game reserve that is in our story. We will also be learning about a company who turn tea bags in to beautiful works of art and how they use the money made from their designs to support families living in nearby Imizamo Yethu township.</p>
<p>R.E.</p>	<p>This term in R.E. we will be looking at 'Believing'. The children will be discussing different people that they have in their life who help and support them. They will be thinking about what being happy means and what makes them happy and they will be exploring what the word inspiring means. We will be discussing what inspires them and how different things can inspire different people.</p>
<p>Art/D.T.</p>	<p>In Art we will be creating our own T bag designs to put on a greetings card. We will be looking at African patterns and different prints that the children could put on to their designs. The children will also be making their own patchwork felt elephant. They will be working on their sewing skills.</p>

P.E.	The children will continue to do gymnastics lessons on a Wednesday, exploring the topic of 'Balances'. We will be using the large apparatus this half term to perform our gymnastics skills. They will continue to do Games lessons and Street Dance on a Friday with the sports coaches and 4A will be finishing their swimming lessons ready for 4B to start their swimming lessons at the end of January.
French	In developing their oracy and literacy skills, the children will be learning new vocabulary in context, for example: the months of the year, adjectives that precede the noun and more verbs. They will also be using the vocabulary required to both ask and respond to more questions and to further develop sentence building through the use of sentence starters. We will continue to consider word classes with more punctuation and the definite article being introduced. Intercultural Understanding will be addressed through French Art and Music and through authentic French songs, stories and finger rhymes.
Homework	The children's homework will go home on a Thursday and should be back in school for the following Thursday. English: Weekly comprehension homework and spellings or SPAG homework every other week. Maths: 1 piece of maths homework will be sent home each week. *Children should also be reading and practising their times tables every day and recording this in their planners.
Useful information for Parents	Parents' Information In order to support your child's learning at home, here are a few ideas you might like to try: - Listen, read and discuss with your child the book they are reading at the moment. Please listen to your child read every night and record in their planner. - Play times tables games and practice division as well as multiplication facts. - Visit your local library and make use of the books, CDs and video they offer, especially the ones related to your child's topic. - Practise your child's spellings with them - they will have a list of spellings to learn every other week for a test the following week.

Word list - Year 4

accident accidentally actual actually address answer appear arrive believe
bicycle breath breathe build busy business calendar caught centre century
certain circle complete consider continue decide describe different
disappear early earth eight eighth enough exercise experience experiment
extreme famous favourite February forward forwards fruit grammar
group guard guide heard heart height history imagine increase important
interest island knowledge learn length library material medicine mention
minute natural naughty notice occasion occasionally often opposite ordinary
particular peculiar perhaps popular position possess possession possible
potatoes pressure probably promise purpose quarter question recent
regular reign remember sentence separate special straight strange
strength suppose surprise therefore though thought through various
weight woman women