



Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter – Autumn Term 2

Welcome to the second half of the Autumn Term!

We have had a fantastic first half term. The children have come to school enthused and ready to learn. I have met most parents and carers by now and my door is always open if you have any questions or want to talk about your child at any time. We hope that this newsletter helps you to understand and talk with your child about the learning they will be doing this half term.

General Class Information

- Reading is encouraged as much as possible from the children. Please encourage your child to read regularly at home with an adult for 10 minutes daily, make some time to discuss and ask questions about the text to develop comprehension skills. If that is a struggle, an older sibling can also read with them and get the adult to sign the reading record.
- The children have 1 PE lesson a week on a Tuesday and we are very lucky as Year 4 get to go swimming on a Wednesday. Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing the correct PE uniform on Tuesdays (school jumper, white t-shirt, black shorts/joggers/leggings and trainers or pumps). We would like our children to always look smart. For swimming; a swim cap is needed for all children, swimming costume or trunks and a towel. The children thoroughly look forward to this every week and all costs are covered for your child to enjoy.



LEARNING MEANS THE WORLD (LMTW) – CRY FREEDOM

“Cry Freedom” is a thematic unit based around slavery. It looks at the history and origins of slavery around the world, before moving on to learning about some key figures involved in the abolition of slavery. Pupils will also learn about modern-day slavery, including child labour.

HISTORY

We start by learning what slavery is, looking at some of the reasons behind it, before finding out about slavery in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America throughout history. Then we learn about two key people that helped abolish slavery and make it illegal. The children will then look at modern day slavery and how we can help to stand up against it.

PSHE

The focus for the children's learning is to understand the term diversity and appreciate diversity in the school. In addition, to learn about the need for tolerance for those who are different from us.

DANCE

In small groups the children will create a dance based on the theme of slavery. They will explore differing motifs that portray both the idea of being bound by slavery and the longing for freedom.

MUSIC

We will carry on with awareness of beat and rhythm and to continue practicing on the glockenspiels. The children will listen to various melodies and become more familiar at recognising patterns, pitch and learning musical terminology.

ART

The children will learn to use different media to achieve variations in line, texture, tone, colour, shape. To use research to inspire drawings from memory and inspiration. The key artist researched will be Banksy.

GEOGRAPHY

The children will be looking at seasons around the world. This term we will research autumn in Canada, winter in Switzerland and look at similarities and differences to here in Britain.

SCIENCE

'May the force be with you' is the science topic that we will cover before we start LMTW. It will concentrate on forces and magnets. The children will carry out practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests.

Our second topic is light, reflections and shadows where the children will discuss and record results in various ways in which shadows can change.

COMPUTING

The children are to create their own quiz using software that will include: transitions, animations, sound, changing layouts, formatting text and importing pictures.

English – Writing

We use the 'Write Stuff' approach to teach writing at St George's. Writing is taught in a sequence so that the children have a clear understanding and model of how to compose a piece of writing, the punctuation they should be using and a broad range of vocabulary to enrich their writing.

This half term our focus is non-fiction writing and looking at the story a life electric: The story Nikola Tesla. From this the children will produce

- A biography
- A fact file
- A letter

Maths

We use White Rose Maths to plan and deliver the teaching of Maths. For each topic, we work through the following sequence:

- Concrete – using concrete materials, e.g using counters, to model and solve problems.
- Pictorial – drawing pictures of concrete materials to model and solve problems
- Abstract – using mathematical symbols such as + - = and numbers to model and solve problems.

This half term, the children will be learning about multiplication, division and measure. Here are the small steps of learning:

Multiplication and Division

A vertical list of 17 small steps for multiplication and division, each in a green box with a 'Step' label on the left:

- Step 1: Multiples of 3
- Step 2: Multiply and divide by 6
- Step 3: 6 times-table and division facts
- Step 4: Multiply and divide by 9
- Step 5: 9 times-table and division facts
- Step 6: The 3, 6 and 9 times-tables
- Step 7: Multiply and divide by 7
- Step 8: 7 times-table and division facts
- Step 9: 11 times-table and division facts
- Step 10: 12 times-table and division facts
- Step 11: Multiply by 1 and 0
- Step 12: Divide a number by 1 and itself
- Step 13: Multiply three numbers

Measure

A vertical list of 5 small steps for measure, each in a green box with a 'Step' label on the left:

- Step 1: What is area?
- Step 2: Count squares
- Step 3: Make shapes
- Step 4: Compare areas

RE

The children will be learning about how religious and non-religious people celebrate festivals. We will look at world views and the similarities and differences between groups of people and look at different faiths within the classroom.

Our whole school Christian Value this half term is TRUST.

'My God is my strength in whom I trust' Psalm 18.2

During our Collective Worship assemblies, the children will be reflecting on the themes of:

- knowing our friends will support us;
- knowing Jesus is with us in stormy times;
- standing on God's promise;
- being trustworthy, not gossiping;
- trusting God.