



Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter – Spring Term 1

Welcome to the First half of the Spring Term!

Welcome back! I hope that you all had a lovely break over the Christmas period and have now settled back into the new term. We are looking forward to working together with you to ensure that your children have the best experience in Year 4. 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 are still going swimming on a Monday until the end of this half term. For swimming: a swimming costume or trunks, a towel and a swim cap is needed for all children. The children thoroughly look forward to this every week and all costs are covered for your child to enjoy.



LEARNING MEANS THE WORLD (LMTW) – Window on the World

We will finish off our unit “Cry Freedom” and then move onto “Window on the World” which is a thematic based unit, based on global issues, with a key focus on geography. We begin by looking at settlements and land use, before moving on to learning about trade links. In particular the Suez Canal as an important international trade route will be a focus. We will also learn more about extinction and endangered species, linked to captive breeding programmes. Through this unit, the children will acquire the following knowledge and understanding:

Concept Flow

- To learn about different types of settlements and land use
- To learn about trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy and food
- To locate and study environmental problems faced by different continents e.g. extinction

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 the children will be writing a creative story using the picture book ‘Float’ by Daniel Miyares. We will concentrate on skills like using the power of three; prepositional phrases and adverbials for time and place.

We will also be looking at a poem called ‘River’ by Valerie Bloom, from this the children will produce their own piece of independent writing.

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.
- Pictoral – 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:



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 PERSERVANCE:



'I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.' Philippians 4.13

During our Collective Worship assemblies, the children will be reflecting on the themes of noticing a need, being a good neighbour, putting on the right attitude, having courage to care, coming to the rescue and God of the unexpected.