Year 4

Autumn 1: Curriculum Overview

Our Values



We have started the year reminding each other about the Brookburn Values. We focus on different values and this half-term we will be thinking about 'Respect'. Please let us know if you notice your child demonstrating any of our values at home or ask them to tell you about them.

Geography



This term our whole school topic is 'Our Place' and in Year 4 we will be focussing on Europe.

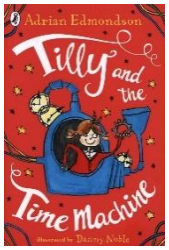
- name and locate the countries and capital cities of Europe
- use digital software, maps and atlases
- developing map skills
- use latitude and longitude and 8 compass points.

The children will study the features of different biomes and climate zones, landscapes and land use across Europe and the impact of human and physical geography.

English



To start the year our writing will be based on the fantasy-adventure book Beaver Towers. Children will build towards rewriting the story to showcase their descriptive writing skills and understanding of prepositional phrases and fronted adverbials.



The first guided reading text is Tilly and the Time Machine and children will discuss in our guided reading group sessions. The children will retrieve, record and develop their inference skills, inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, justifying inferences with evidence.

Spelling lessons will focus on key year 4 spelling rules (including homophones, the prefixes in-, il-, im-, ir-, sub-, inter- and the suffix –ation) which will be practised through a range of activities and strategies.

In our handwriting lessons, children will practise the fluency and speed of our cursive joining, while keeping our writing neat.

Maths

In maths, we will begin with a deep focus on number and place value. We will work with numbers up to 99,000, learning to identify, represent and estimate values.

We will then cover addition and subtraction, children will practise our mental calculation, add and subtract with up to 4 digits using effective written methods and use the inverse to check answers.

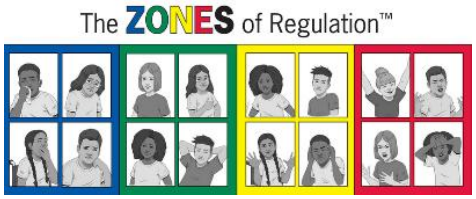
We will also use arrays to help build a strong understanding of timetables so we can commit tables to 12 x 12 to memory.

Science

Our first science unit is States of Matter where children learn about the particle distribution in solids, liquids and gases, going on to compare and group materials together, according to their state of matter. Children will learn how to devise and carry out investigations in a small group, to observe that some materials change state when heated or cooled, and measure and research the temperature at which this happens. Children will also identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.

Other Curriculum Areas

RE – Christianity and different festivals
Art – 'Storytelling through drawing', looking at artists Shaun Tan and Laura Carlin before experimenting and creating a visual retelling of The Jabberwocky poem.
Music – Learning to sing Abba Classic, Mamma Mia and to play/improvise glockenspiel accompaniments.
PE – Swimming lessons and hockey skills
PSHCE – Healthy Living, including sleeping well, a healthy diet and feeling well and using 'Zones of Regulation' to help us to check in and talk about our feelings.
French – Je me présente (All about me)
Computing – Networks, the internet and e-safety.



UN Convention of the Rights of the Child

We are now proud to be a Rights Respecting Gold School. As the new term begins, each class will design their own class charter. A charter is a visual document that establishes an agreed set of rights-based principles upon which relationships can be based and which provide a language for shared values. This half term, we will be electing our new representatives for our 'Rights Council'.

Our school charter: *Article 2- The convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.*
Article 12- Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously.
Article 28- Every child has the right to an education.
Article 31- Every child has the right to relax and play.

Important Dates

Homework in year 4 is weekly reading, Mathletics , TT Rockstars times tables practise and spelling practise. Homework will begin next week. Books can be changed on Thursdays.
Swimming begins - 09.09.26 and continues every Wednesday
PE day - every Thursday (children to wear correct PE kit into school)
Meet the team - 15.09.26 This is an opportunity to meet the team and find out information about this year. (3:45 or 5pm)
Weekly class emails begin: 18.09.26
Inclusion Coffee morning TBC
Dyslexia Awareness Week: 28.09.26
Wear Red Day (show racism the red card): 16.10.26
PTA disco: 22.10.26
Half-term- 3.30 Friday 23.10.26. Autumn 2 starts on 02.11.26