

Year 4 Curriculum Update Summer 2024

4MM Miss Sanders
4AF Mr Searle
4CC Mrs Wheeler and Mrs Bonsor



Themes

Our theme for the first half of this term is Ancient Greece. The children will learn about this civilisation through their English, geography, art and history lessons. The children will also all work together on their production of 'Going for Gold'.

In the second half of the term their learning will have a science and design technology theme based around the book of the 'Iron Man' by Ted Hughes.

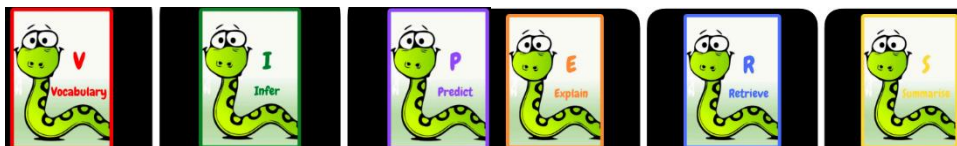
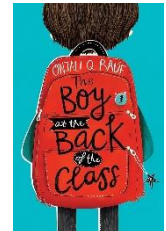
English

In English lessons the children will learn about letter writing, recounts, non-chronological report writing and biographies. They will also learn about play scripts as part of their production of 'Going for Gold'. Alongside these lessons, the children will learn the grammatical skills which support each of these genres.

They will continue to have a weekly set of spellings, following a particular pattern, to learn and practise using in their own sentences. Handwriting fluency is also important as the children continue to develop their spelling and punctuation accuracy. More information about how English is taught can be found in the curriculum section of the school website.

Guided reading and class novels

The children will continue to have sessions of guided reading each week. These sessions will be linked to the class novels or be based on a linked text. The children will explore different questions types and explore why authors choose particular words in their stories and texts. The children will also have opportunities to read aloud to the class, both as individuals, in a small groups and as a whole class.



Our question VIPERS

Mathematics

The focus for the term is initially on decimals then moving onto telling the time, money, shape, angles and finishing the term with a unit on position and direction. Each lesson includes practical learning, encouraging the children to develop a range of strategies to solve problems and apply these skills in different situations. They will also continue to develop their confidence with their times tables, practising their times tables daily and associated division facts. More information can be found by looking at our calculation policy on the school website. We are also developing a new times table fluency program, with the children practising quick recall of number facts every day. This regular practise will support the children in their confidence during the statutory times table test in June.

Science

In Science, the children will firstly learn about animals and humans. In this unit, the children will learn about the simple functions of the digestive system in humans, different types of teeth and their functions. They will also learn about a variety of food chains, identifying producers, consumers,

predators and prey. After half term they will learn about electricity. The children will construct simple series circuits, identifying cells, bulbs, wires, switches and buzzers. They will investigate how and why different circuits are working and recognise the purpose of a switch to open and close a circuit.

History/Geography

During this topic, the children will learn about the legacy of the Ancient Greeks. They will be investigating both primary and secondary sources and using these to interrogate the past. The questions they will be considering are:

- How do we know about the Ancient Greeks? (Theseus and the Minotaur: Is there any evidence for the Legend)
- What can we work out about everyday life in Ancient Athens from the pottery evidence that remains?
- Why was Athens the most powerful city in Ancient Greece?
- In what ways have the Ancient Greeks influenced our lives today? (Democracy, Language, Architecture, Thinkers)

In geography the children will learn about the location and names of European countries and their capitals. The children will further develop their knowledge of the locations and the physical and human geography associated with Greece.

Design Technology & Art

In DT the children will design and make their own robot, using Ted Hughes' Iron man for inspiration. In their art work they will learn about Barbara Hepworth and take part in a unit of work about sculpture. They will also have the opportunity to design and make objects from clay using their Ancient Greek topic as inspiration.

Music

The children will have a weekly music lesson either with their class teacher or our specialist music teacher Mrs Brown in the first half-term. They will also have a weekly singing assembly alongside the rest of KS2.

PE

The children will have two PE lessons per week. These lessons will either be taught by our PE coach Mr Andrews or by the class teacher. The children will all have a series of lessons focussing on athletics, cricket, orienteering and gymnastics lesson about balance and co-ordination.

PSHE

In these weekly lessons the children will learn about managing risk, RSE and a unit on healthy lifestyles. More details regarding the RSE unit will be available to parents before this unit is taught.

We will also regularly refer to the 'Zones of regulation' as a way of explaining how we are feeling.

The **ZONES** of Regulation®

BLUE ZONE		GREEN ZONE		YELLOW ZONE		RED ZONE	
Sad		Happy		Frustrated		Mad/Angry	
Sick		Calm		Worried		Terrified	
Tired		Feeling Okay		Silly/Wiggly		Yelling/Hitting	
Bored		Focused		Excited		Elated	
Moving Slowly		Ready to Learn		Loss of Some Control		Out of Control	

French

The children will have a weekly French lesson taught by their class teacher. The children will learn the correct nouns to use when referring to family members, ask and answer simple questions – Do you have? What is this called? And the adjectives used to describe hair and eye colour. They will continue to practice greetings, listen to stories in French and use the correct pronunciation of French vowel sounds.

Religious Education

This term's unit is based on a philosophy unit around the subject of 'sacrifice' and what this term means within the contexts of different religions.

Computing

In this unit, the children explore the concept of repetition in programming using the Scratch environment. They will look at the difference between count-controlled and infinite loops, and use their knowledge to modify existing animations and games using repetition. Their final project is to design and create a game which uses repetition, applying stages of programming design throughout.

Supporting your child's learning

In order to support your child's learning there are a range of things you can do at home, making it fun and relevant for them.

- Read with and to your child regularly – whilst we believe it is important for the children to practising reading aloud to an adult daily, they also need to listen to good quality books being read to them as an opportunity to be exposed to texts that are currently beyond their own reading capability. The children are welcome to bring and share a book during our 'Fun reading Friday' sessions.
- Do have a look on the school website for more information about how we teach maths, especially our calculation policy.
- Regularly log into spelling shed and practise a range of the games.
- Practise times tables using TT Rockstars or 'Hit the Button'. Initially focus on $x2x4x8$ and then onto $x3x6x9x12$ this really helps the children to see the links between the sets of numbers in these groups.
- Engage your children to discussions about topical issues the world around them. There are specially produced newspapers for children as well as TV programmes such as 'Newsround' and Blue Peter.
- Visit our wonderful Saffron Walden town museum to find out more about our local area. They also have a very interesting collection of Greek artefacts.