

Year 4 Spring Term Learning



English:

The stimulus for all our writing this term is the novel *Varjak Paw* by S. F. Said. The children will be building on skills introduced last term to write in a variety of styles and genres. These will include new writing styles such as biography and discussion texts, as well as revisiting styles such as newspaper reports and letters. Children will be taught how to edit their work to both correct and improve their writing, working with a partner as well as independently. As always there will be many exciting opportunities to read and share texts including during author visits and our whole school Reading Festival. In comprehension lessons, the children will explore a variety of genres and learn how to answer a wide range of questions including inference and retrieval questions.

Maths:

This term we focus on developing fluency with all tables up to 12 x 12. We will continue with our 'Maths Olympics' challenge to support the children in learning their tables and we will encourage the children to use TT Rock Stars to support their practise at home. We begin our new topics on fractions and decimals, using concrete and pictorial methods to aid understanding. We will revisit topics from previous terms and continue to develop children's understanding of all areas of the maths curriculum including number, shape and measure.

Topic:

We will be learning about many new and interesting topics this term. The children will learn about sculpture in our Art topic and will also study the Transatlantic Slave Trade, looking particularly at Bristol's role and the global impact in the world today. Children will continue to study Spanish and the next two classes will have weekly ukulele lessons with a specialist music teacher. In geography, we will be looking at the water cycle and learning about rivers and flooding. This will incorporate both human and physical aspects of geography. In RE will be looking at the Jewish celebration of Passover and the Christian celebration of Easter.

Other information:

PE will take place on Tuesday afternoons. Children will need to have the correct PE kit in school every week for this session, in line with the school uniform policy. As the weather turns colder, some warmer clothes would be advisable as PE will usually take place outside.

Homework will be set each Friday and posted on both Class Dojo and the Year 4 page of the school website. Homework is optional and will link to learning taking place in school. The weekly spelling test will take place on a Friday each week.

How can I help?

Reading with your child is still very important in Year 4. Even a few minutes of reading is beneficial, with reading skills being so important across the curriculum. Please support your child in regular practice of spellings and times tables as children in Year 4 will undertake a formal Times Table check. Times Tables Rockstars is a great place to do this.

Useful websites:

- <https://trockstars.com/>
- <https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>



English

Autumn: Fiction & non-fiction writing based on *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C. S. Lewis.

Spring: Fiction and non-fiction writing on *Varjak Paw* by S F Said.

Summer: Fiction and non-fiction writing based on *Kensuke's Kingdom* by Michael Morpurgo.

Maths

Autumn: Place value, rounding, 2D shape four operations (+ - x /)

Spring: four operations (+ - x /), estimating, angles, fractions, decimals, perimeter

Summer: converting units of measure, fractions, decimals, time money, area, perimeter, pictograms, bar charts

Physical Education

Autumn: Athletics, skipping, personal best, football, basketball, netball, rugby

Spring: Dance, gymnastics, athletics

Summer: Racket sports, cricket, rounders

Science

Autumn: States of Matter; Plants, living things and their habitats

Spring: Sound

Summer: Animals including Humans; Electricity

History

Autumn: Ancient Civilisations: Mayans

Spring: Local History: Bristol and the Slave Trade

Summer: Ancient Greeks

Geography

Autumn: North and South America

Spring: Water Cycle and Rivers

Summer: Local study

DT

Autumn: DT in the world: Robots

Summer: DT construction: Kensuke's Island,

Art

Autumn: Collage

Spring: Sculpture

Summer: Painting

Religious Education

Autumn: Why do religious books and teachings matter?

Spring: How do we make moral choices? How should we live and who can inspire us?

Summer: What do people believe about life?

Music

Autumn, Spring and Summer: Ukulele lessons taught by specialist teacher from Bristol Plays Music

Computing

Autumn: Digital Literacy: personal profiles and social media

Spring: Computer programming: conditional statements

Summer: Information Technology : databases and digital exploration

Languages: Spanish

Autumn: body, animals and Christmas

Spring: family, pets and Easter

Summer: hobbies, transport and holidays

Year 4 Suggested Reading List



Title	Author
The Akimbo Adventures	Alexander McCall Smith
The Angel of Nitshill Road	Anne Fine
A Christmas Carol	Marcia Williams
A Hen in the Wardrobe	Wendy Meddour
Beaver Towers	Nigel Hinton
Boy with the Magic Numbers	Sally Gardner
Captain Cat	Inga Moore
The Chicken Gave It to Me	Anne Fine
Cloud Tea Monkeys	Elspeth Graham and Mal Peet
The Demon Headmaster	Gillian Cross
Dinner Ladies Don't Count	Bernard Ashley
Dragons and Crumbling Castle	Terry Pratchett
Famous Adventures of Jack	Berlie Doherty
Fastest Boy in the World	Elizabeth Laird
Flow	Pippa Goodhart
Freckle Juice	Judy Blum
Girls, Goddesses and Giants	Lari Don
Give Peas a Chance	Morris Gleitzman
The Graet Piratical Rumbustification	Margaret Mahy
I Was A Rat	Phillip Pullman
Legend of Captain Crow's Teeth	Eoin Colfer
One Dog and his Boy	Eva Ibbotson
Oranges in No Man's Land	Elizabeth Laird
Pippi Longstocking	Astrid Lingren
The Story Thief	Andrew Peters
Wolf Brother	Michelle Paver