



Year 4 – Spring 1

Sustainability – What can you do to help protect our planet?



Dates to remember this half term:

Children's Mental Health Week – 9th-15th February

Tuesday 10th February – Safer Internet Day

Friday 13th February – end of half term.

Notices:

PE Days – Wednesday & Friday

All jewellery must be removed for PE lessons. Retainers can be worn in place of earrings. No plaster covers.

Reading Books/Book Bags – to be in school every day.

English: Reading

Children are exposed to a wide range of texts covering fiction genres, non-fiction and poetry. Texts are varied in length and can be a class novel over the whole half term or shorter texts which can be explored in a week. We teach reading through the explicit teaching of new vocabulary and background knowledge first. The children then build on their fluency by reading aloud extracts and text every single day. The children read aloud every day and discuss the texts in rich, open discussions with both their teacher and their peers before completing a range of varied comprehension questions focusing on key skills such as retrieval, inference, predictions and reasoning. The school reading book is a home reading book and will be changed fortnightly.

English: Writing

Our core reading texts and topics form the basis for much of our independent writing units and are the 'hook' to grab the imagination of our writers. During this half term we will continue to explore different fiction and non-fiction texts as well as poetry. The children will explore the features of these texts by looking at examples before planning and then writing their own independently. We will work on developing our tense by writing newspaper reports and we will continue to showcase our creative writing talents through extended narrative writing with a focus on character and setting descriptions. Spelling, Grammar and Handwriting lessons are taught discreetly with children given regular time throughout the week to practice. This half-term we will be focusing on key grammatical features such as our use of apostrophes and commas. We will also be studying different poetry genres such as cinquain and kennings.

We read every day through our reading lessons, class novel, topic related books and other stories through reading for pleasure. Some of the texts we will explore this half term include;



<p>Maths: Multiplication & Division Building on our previous place value learning and times tables work before Christmas, children will now be tasked with calculating complex multiplication and division questions. They will use place value to multiply and divide by 10 and 100 before progressing to using a written method for calculations to multiply and divide 2 and 3 digit numbers.</p>	<p>Science: Electricity In science, the children will study electricity. We will begin by thinking about where electricity comes from and the different electrical appliances we rely on in our homes and everyday lives. We will then build an electrical circuit and understand the different components of the circuit. In line with our core value of sustainability, we will understand what is meant by ‘renewable energy’ and consider how this affects our future.</p>	<p>Computing: Photo Editing In this unit, children will develop their understanding of how digital images can be changed and edited, and how they can then be resaved and reused. They will consider the impact that editing images can have, and evaluate the effectiveness of their choices.</p>
<p>DT: Railway train The children will take part in an exciting project, working with Primary Engineer (www.primaryengineer.com) to design and build their own electrical train model. Primary Engineer have provided all the resources and the real engineers will visit the children throughout the topic to support with the building.</p>	<p>Music: Stop! This will be a lot of fun! The children will have the opportunity to learn how to play the glockenspiel and develop their rhythm and timing. They will also be given the opportunity to create their own rap music.</p>	<p>History: George Stephenson George Stephenson was a Civil Engineer and inventor and is known as ‘The Father of Railways’. We will explore his life and achievements and the impact of his ingenuity on our lives both in the past and today.</p>

PE:

Our PE days for Spring term continue to be on a **Wednesday and Friday** and this half term's focus is gymnastics. On Wednesday we will be fortunate to have a coach from Active Futures with us.

PSHCE: Virtues – Cleanliness, Fairness, Friendliness

Cleanliness – clean words, linked to our emotions.

Fairness – Why do we have rules?

Friendliness – Being flexible and open to change.

RE: What is it like to follow God?

Through the teaching of popular bible stories the children will think about how what people believe has an impact on how they live.

Our school character virtues:

Dotty
Dragonfly



Determination

Eddie
Elephant



Empathy

Hugo
Hedgehog



Honesty

Polly
Puffin



Positivity

Rosie
Rabbit



Respect

Each day a child is identified as showing one of our character virtues through their actions and behaviour. Their name will then go on a golden ticket and at the end of the week one golden ticket is randomly selected. The child, who is chosen, will then get to experience games, juice and biscuits with Mrs Dowdney.