

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter - Autumn 2



Dear parents and carers, Welcome to **Year 4**. Please have a look over our curriculum for the coming half term...

Our team are: Mrs Smith and Mrs Ahmad (Chestnut Class), Mrs Hamilton and Mrs Swinson (Beech Class) and Mrs Collyer (Hazel Class). We also have a wonderful group of Teaching Assistants working with us too!



**Strength in Learning.
Power in Community**



Writing: We have begun our new book – ‘How to Train Your Dragon’ by Cressida Cowell. We will be using this text as a stimulus to design our own dragons and create non-chronological reports about them. We have really enjoyed getting stuck into our new book so far – passing the Dragon Training Initiation tests was an exciting way to start the half term.



Reading: This half-term, we will be reading the book ‘Harley Hitch and the Iron Forest’ by Vashti Hardy. This story follows the adventures of Harley Hitch who notices some strange fungus growing in the iron forest. If the fungus spreads it might cause all Inventia to fall apart! Each week we will be focussing on different letters in the VIPERS skills acronym, and we will practise the skill in a range of different ways – whilst enjoying reading the book together. We will also have opportunities to spend time reading independently and to share our books with our friends.



Maths: This half term we will be looking at area and what it is. Later in the term we will be exploring multiplication and division further – we will be focusing on mental methods, learning times tables and making links between times tables during this unit. After Christmas we will be teaching written methods for multiplication and division.



Science: Our topic this half term is all about Sound and Vibrations. We will be exploring this topic through a series of investigations and experiments to learn exactly how sound is made and how it travels to our ears.



History/Geography: This half term, we will begin learning more about the Vikings. Who were they? What were they like? Why did they invade Britain? Did they really wear helmets with horns sticking out of them? We are excited to explore this period of history further and find out the answers to our questions.



PSHE: This half term we will be thinking about the theme: Living in the Wider World, but more specifically – respect. We will explore, how people’s behaviour affects themselves and others, including online. How to model being polite and courteous in different situations and recognise the respectful behaviour they should receive in return. The relationship between rights and responsibilities. The right to privacy and how to recognise when a confidence or secret should be kept.



Music: This half-term, the children in Year 4 are continuing to use the chime bars. The children will be composing their own short melodies, making careful and purposeful choices about the duration they want them to be, with a focus on quaver-pairs, crotchets and minims, and the pitch of their notes, remembering not to include F or B for the pentatonic scale of C major.



Computing: Our first computing unit this half term is about the hardware involved in a computer. We will then move into looking at how to effectively and safely use Google.



PE: This half term our outdoor PE is Netball – we will be learning the correct footwork, whilst refining our passing and receiving skills. A huge part of PE is working collaboratively in a team, and working together in order to ‘win’. Our indoor PE this half term is a dance unit. We will be learning a routine, before creating, rehearsing and performing our own routines.



RE: In RE, we will be continue thinking about the question... ‘Are all religions equal?’ The children will be exploring the origins of various religions whilst looking at the geographical and historical connections among them.



Art & DT: This half term we will be completing an Art unit looking at telling stories through illustrations. We will explore how we can create atmosphere through our mark making and we will be retelling the Jabberwocky through our own illustrations, using elements of the text to support us.



MFL: In French, we have been learning some key verbs and how they change depending on the subject! We will also be learning how to change a phrase to a ‘negative phrase’, for instance, I like pizza – would become – I don’t like pizza.



Forest school: This half term we will be learning use classification keys to identify different fungi. We will also be using a bow saw in order to create small wooden discs – watch this space!

If you have any questions at all please contact us or catch us at the end of the school day.

Please ensure the children come into school ready for PE on their days.

Beech Class:	Indoor - Wednesday	Outdoor - Friday
Chestnut Class:	Indoor - Thursday	Outdoor - Wednesday
Hazel Class:	Indoor - Thursday	Outdoor - Wednesday

Daily reading makes a huge difference—please record this in your child’s reading record.

Homework and spellings go home each Thursday.