

Year 4 Curriculum News - Spring Term

The topic that will be studied across most areas of the curriculum this term is 'Natural Disasters', where we will be answering, 'How have natural disasters affected our locality and the world around us?'

Languages, Literacy and Communication

We will be covering a range of genres this term which will be mainly linked to our topic area of Natural Disasters. This term we will be creating narrative pieces based on imaginary worlds and adventure writing. The children will also learn to write different forms of poetry and continue to develop their non-fiction writing skills including a range of information texts. Extended writing will continue to take place on Friday. In addition to the above themes, pupils will also undertake a range of work focusing on grammar, dictionary and thesaurus skills. Our class novel will be 'Into the Volcano by Jess Butterworth' where we will read this during our daily reading sessions. The children will also have access to a range of non-fiction texts related to our topic in the classroom that they can explore!

Spellings - Weekly spellings sent out on a Thursday via the weekly homework letter/Spelling test the following Monday.

Handwriting - We will continue to develop our fluency in handwriting by revisiting letter sizes, break letters and joins.

How you can help: How you can help: Please also ensure that your child has learnt the weekly spellings and wherever and whenever possible, enjoy a book together.

Welsh

This term, the children will be introduced to topic related vocabulary as well as working through the Continwmm Cymraeg for Progression Step 3 which will involve a variety of activities so that their knowledge, understanding and skills are developed within an integrated programme of speaking and listening, reading and writing. These aims will also be reached through daily fun games and activities!

International Languages

We will continue learning French this term and build on our knowledge to further develop the children's fluency.

Maths & Numeracy

We will begin by reintroducing fractions where we will look at how to identify equivalent fractions, a fraction of an amount and how to compare fractions with different denominators. We will then continue to develop the pupil's knowledge of place value and the four number operations - addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will be answering worded problems which will require the children to work out which operation is needed in order to solve the problem. In shape, data and measures, we will continue to work on money, bar graphs and line graphs with an emphasis on using these skills in real life scenarios as well as area and perimeter. We also begin to look at problems involving sequencing and patterns in numbers that require deeper thinking skills.

Homework - Weekly maths homework related to our unit of work

How can you help: Practice the times tables with your child - rapid recall of times tables facts is an essential element of number. Look at Big Maths papers that are sent home - revise and practice any tricky questions.

Humanities/Expressive Arts (Disaster Zone)

Our topic 'Natural Disasters' has a geography focus and teaches children about the causes and human/physical impacts of natural disasters involving earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, flooding, drought and erosion and the environmental factors which cause them. At the heart of this project children write reports using factual data with global dimension. In addition, children develop skills to write leaflets and present findings from investigations and reports using scientific and geographical language.

We will study a range of artists, each whose work is inspired by the use of natural materials or the natural world. Children will have a chance to use natural materials and a range of creative techniques to express themselves.

Science & Technology

The Science focus will link to our Disaster Zone topic. We will consider living and non-living things and investigate the properties of rocks and soils. The children will have the opportunity to link their findings to natural disasters and consider the cause and effect of different landforms around the world.

Year 4 will continue to develop skills from the Digital Competency Framework. This term the children will continue to use the Hwb forum to improve their ability using Microsoft Office programmes. We will also continue to embed digital competence throughout the curriculum using a number of different apps and programmes to enhance the children's learning.

R.E.

As we are a Church in Wales Primary School, Religious Education is one of the subjects that will be taught discretely using the Understanding Christianity scheme of work. During the Spring term, we will be learning about other faiths; namely Buddhism. We will also look at the celebration of St Bridget's Day and will hold a worship in the church to reflect on our learning. After half term, we will return to the Understanding Christianity scheme of work where the focus will be Salvation in the build up to Easter. Study areas will include important events during Holy Week and the Easter time reflections of Christians today.

Health & Wellbeing

Our P.E. days with Mr Nurton will be on Thursday/Friday. Please can all children bring PE kits into school on a Monday morning if PE days change. It is very important that every pupil takes part in PE. PE kit should consist of black or navy jogging bottoms/shorts, a white t-shirt and suitable outdoor shoes. Children are not permitted to wear earrings during PE. Due to our changeable weather, pupils will need to ensure they have a kit that can be used both indoors and outdoors.

Wellbeing will continue through our Jigsaw scheme. The children will complete topics about 'Dreams and Goals', related to aspirations, how to achieve goals and understand the emotions that go with this.

General Information

Yellow homework books - Pupils will use these books to practise their weekly spellings/maths.

Homework will be sent home on a Thursday and pupils will have a week to complete this work. Homework will consist of maths work and weekly spelling. Homework will be sent home via a parentpay letter unless a paper copy is requested. Homework is also put on the school website weekly under the Year 4 class page. Children are permitted to cover their homework books however they would like to, pictures, wrapping paper, photographs etc. MyMaths and Seesaw logins have been sent home with the pupils' new homework books. The maths code can be used to access their online maths homework page, and the seesaw code can be used for children to upload news from home to share with the class, holiday pictures, extra-curricular achievements etc.

Reading - The children will continue to read to an adult on their allocated reading day during ERIC Time (Everybody Reading In Class). The children can choose to take school reading books home if they would like to, or they can choose to read their own books from home.

I am looking forward to teaching your children and the exciting Spring term ahead! As you will already be aware, we have an open-door policy at St Brides. Therefore, please do not hesitate to contact me or speak to me on the yard if you have any concerns.

Thank you,

Miss Evans