

Curriculum News
Year 4
Spring Term

Languages, Literacy and Communication

Literacy

Our literacy work will begin by focusing on descriptive writing, and in particular character descriptions, based on our class novel 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. It would be helpful if all children could bring a copy of the book to school as we will be referring to the text during literacy lessons and guided reading. This term we will also be looking at the features of persuasive writing, where children will aim to write a persuasive letter based upon the effects of plastic packaging which links closely with our topic of 'Global Gathering' as well as the importance of the Welsh language. This will also provide pupils the opportunity to practise many oracy skills; gathering evidence to share an opinion and argument effectively. Finally, we will explore the skills of instruction writing based upon our topic, exploring instructions of how to make a variety of food recipes from around the world.

Spellings - Weekly spellings with Read, Write Inc.

Handwriting – Daily handwriting practice

Other - In addition to the above areas pupils will also undertake a range of work focusing on grammar, dictionary and thesaurus skills and reading.

How can you help? Please continue to support your child with their weekly spellings. Spellings will be sent out on a Thursday via the weekly letter ready for the spelling test on the following Monday. Encouraging reading for pleasure independently or with you is also hugely beneficial.

Welsh

Our topics this term are 'Bwyd' (Food), 'Y Parti' (The Party) and 'Salwch' (Illness). Through our topics, the children will develop a variety of sentence patterns in order to develop their oracy, reading and writing skills.

International Languages

We will continue to develop the children's knowledge of the French language this term.

Maths and Numeracy

We will have a busy term in numeracy. We will focus on practising and revisiting previous concepts and areas of learning involving the four main operations; addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and using these skills within the handling of money. Further into the term, we will focus on revising 2D and 3D shapes, then introducing angles, compass direction, coordinates and measures of time. We will also always continue to develop numerical reasoning skills and times table practise.

How can you help? - You can practise the times tables with your pupils, as rapid recall of tables facts is an essential element for confidence in number work. You can also sit with your child to complete their 'MyMaths' homework which I will upload on a Friday.

R.E.

This term we will be continuing, as a whole school, to focus on our celebration of 'Ffrindiau'r Byd' / 'Friends of the World' by exploring how the children's actions and treatment of the world and global community can make a difference in their communities. We will also be focusing on the comparison of multifaith vs no faith where children will look at how different religions and cultures make decisions on what is right or wrong.

Science and Technology

We will be considering the effects of climate change through 'Our Sustainable World'. The main focus will be global footprints and how climate change is being reversed on a local and worldwide scale. There will also be links to our Global Gathering topic through investigating food miles, buying local and plastic packaging.

Year 4 will develop ICT skills both discretely and through cross curricular activities. There will be an emphasis on computer science again through coding and creating data. We will also begin to use apps such as Garage Band for our Global Gathering topic.

Health and Well Being

Our P.E. days remain on a Thursday or Friday with me or Mr Nurton. It is very important that every pupil takes part in PE. It is therefore essential that they have the correct kit with them. 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 kit that can be used both indoors and outdoors. As we also enter in the summer term, it is important children bring a hat and water bottle.

Humanities/Expressive Arts

Global Gathering:

This topic has a food design and technology focus and teaches children about different food types from around the World, Fairtrade and the importance of eating a healthy diet for wellbeing. This project also has a music focus and teaches children about a range of different sounds, songs, a range of tuned and untuned instruments and how they are played. At the heart of this project children write poems on a musical theme using alliteration and rhyme, and in addition develop skills in writing for information and explanation. They will also work on additional skills in writing to advertise and inform.

In this topic the children will learn:

- Where food originates from, and how food has a 'carbon footprint' which affects the cost.
- About the cultural traditions relating to food; how food production is important to particular countries.
- How diet affects our health and wellbeing.
- To make accurate measurements and calculate costs of food and ingredients.
- To develop basic food technology skills and follow recipes.

- The names of a range of instruments and how to make sounds with them.
- How sound is made and comes from a range of sources.
- How music is used to celebrate important occasions.

General Information:

Homework - This will be sent home on a Thursday (Spellings) and MyMaths will now be uploaded on a Friday. In most cases, pupils will have a week to complete this work. Homework will mainly consist of MyMaths work, Spellings, and some topic research. Homework will be sent home via Parentmail. Homework is also put on to the school website weekly.

Reading - children will continue to read to an adult on their allocated day during the ERIC Time (Everybody Reading In Class). The children can choose a book to bring home from school on a Thursday (Reading for Pleasure book), however any books they read at home are also extremely beneficial.

If you have any other queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes,

Miss Yasmin Evans