



YEAR 4

AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER

Hello and welcome to Year 4! We'd like to introduce ourselves. Mrs Carlton is the teacher in Maid Marian and Mr Jones is the teacher in Little John. We also have Mrs Ryan supporting us. Mrs Marshall is the Year 3&4 Phase Leader and will be teaching in Maid Marian on a Tuesday and Little John on a Thursday. Little John will also have Miss Bloomfield teaching them on a Monday afternoon.

ENGLISH



We will start our year off by reading 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes and doing some descriptive writing. We will focus on recapping grammatical skills that the children are familiar with before introducing some new ones. We will also be producing an informative piece of writing about the water cycle and pollution, linked to our geography topic. After half term, we will be reading 'How to Train Your Dragon' by Cressida Cowell. We will be incorporating the story into our lessons, including performing arts, as well as retelling a section of the story in first person for our written work.

MATHS

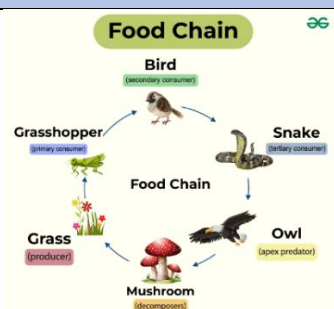
This term, we are focusing on place value up to 4-digits and the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). There is some consolidation of last year's learning to make sure children are confident using these skills to tackle more difficult problems.

We will continue to place a large emphasis on learning and recounting our times tables, up to 12x12. It is very important that all children in Year 4 are confident with all times tables. Year 4 children will take part in a national 'Multiplication Check' in June. We want to ensure that all children perform as well as they can, so we will be introducing additional times tables practice into our school day during this term.

As part of our learning, we will also be using TT Rockstars to support our times tables learning, as well as Mathletics. Both of these will be used to provide additional work as homework.



SCIENCE

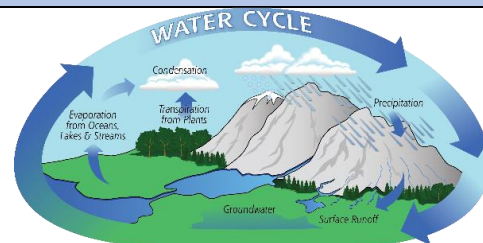


In autumn 1, we will be learning about animals including humans. We will look at the digestive system of humans, identify the different types of teeth we have and construct a variety of food chains including producers, predators and prey.

In autumn 2, our topic is Living Things and their Habitat. This will focus on classifying and grouping animals and the habitats they live in.

GEOGRAPHY

Our geography topic this term is 'What goes up must come down'. We will be looking at the water cycle and explain the aspects of it. We will look at water pollution and how drinking water is cleaned. We will also look at how flooding occurs.



HISTORY



Our history topic this term is all about the Vikings that came to invade and settle in the UK around 1000 years ago. We will look at the journey they made to get here, as well as how and why they invaded. We will also identify some of the cultural impact they had on our modern society. There are still words and names we use today that originate from the Vikings!

ART



Year 4 will be looking at storytelling through drawing in this topic. We will start by learning about sketching techniques using pencil and charcoal. Then, we will explore how artists create sequenced drawings to share and tell stories. We will finish the unit by creating comic strips to retell poetry or prose through drawing. Throughout the unit, the children will be introduced to two artists – Laura Carlin and Shaun Tan.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

During this term, Year 4 will design, make and evaluate a biscuit box to give to a family member for a special occasion. This will involve looking at the importance of packaging for food items and create design criteria for making a net. The children will then make their box using appropriate materials before evaluating it.



PERSONAL SOCIAL HEALTH & ECONOMIC EDUCATION



In PSHE, the children will learn about ourselves and how to get along with other people. Then, we will learn about and celebrate our similarities and differences.

RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION

In RSE, we will be looking at the human lifecycle. We will also be learning about body changes that happen when a child grows up.
Book recommendation: Amazing You! By Gail Saltz



COMPUTING



In this term, the children will develop computational thinking and programming animations with Scratch. They will learn to use basic code in these sessions. After half term, the children will explore databases and identify how these are used to compare and filter data.

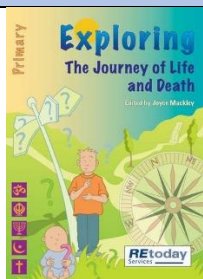
CYBER SAFETY

As children become more active online, it's important to help them build safe and responsible digital habits. Here are some key tips to support your child's cyber safety:

- Talk openly about online safety.
- Use parental controls.
- Know their passwords.
- Remind them not to share personal information.
- Model good behaviour online.
- Encourage age-appropriate apps and games.
- Encourage them to speak up.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



In RE, we want our children to be able to ask questions and think about the beliefs of others, so that they understand the people in our community. Our first topic will look at the life milestones celebrated by different religions, as well as non-religious people. We will also look at different views on life-after-death (in a sensitive, educational manner).

DIVERSITY CALENDAR

This term as part of our whole school diversity calendar, we will be learning about:

- National Inclusion Week
- World Alzheimer's Day
- International Day of Sign Language
- Black History month
- Yom Kippur (Jewish)
- Harvest Festival (Christian)
- Show Racism the Red Card
- Diwali (Sikh and Hindu)
- Armistice Day
- World Kindness Day
- St Andrew's Day (Scotland)
- Human Rights Day
- Hanukkah (Jewish)



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Did you know....exercise makes your brain function better?



This term, Year 4 will have P.E on a **Thursday**.
In the first half term, **Maid Marian** will also have PE on a **Friday** and **Little John** will be **swimming** on a **Thursday**.
After October half term, this will swap – Maid Marian will swim on a Thursday and Little John will have PE on Friday.

On PE days, please ensure your child wears the PE kit uniform of black shorts/joggers/leggings, a school polo shirt and trainers (preferably black). Please remove any earrings. For swimming, children will need to bring a towel and suitable swimwear in a bag.

QUESTIONS AND ISSUES



If you have any questions or issues with any aspect of your child's school life, please let us know. The best time to speak to Mrs Carlton, Mr Jones, Mrs Ryan or Mrs Marshall is at the end of the school day, when you can make an appointment to speak to them.

If you wish to speak to a teacher in the morning, please speak to whoever is on the door as they will be able to help you.

HOMework

Reading

eggs



Spellingframe

Spellings will be handed out every **Monday**. These are to be practiced at home and then returned by **Friday** when they will have their spelling test. Please practice these with your children to ensure they learn the words.
Maths homework will be handed out every **Monday** to be returned by **Friday**. This will be based around the work that we are doing in class during that time as well as some revision from previous units.

Children can also access all of the online programs at home, using the logins in their diaries. **If you have any issues accessing the online homework, please come and speak to one of the Year 4 team.**

Your child will be given a 'book-banded' reading book, which they are responsible for changing when they have finished. We ask that you read with your child **at least 5 times per week**. Please sign their reading diary after they have read. This will count as a 'read' towards our RED TED reading initiative, where children can collect coloured badges.

TRIPS AND EXPERIENCES

Autumn 1:

Severn Trent Visit (free of charge)
Harvest Festival – St Mary's Church, Bulwell visit (free of charge)

Autumn 2:

University of Nottingham Anglo-Saxon Workshop (free of charge)
Christmas Celebration – St Mary's Church, Bulwell visit (free of charge)

SEVERN

TRENT

WATER

DIARY DATES

HALF TERM ONE

02/09 Start of autumn 1
11/09 Little John start swimming lessons
17/09 Year 4 Welcome Meeting 9am
14/10 Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church
16/10 Firework Display
17/10 Last day of autumn 1

HALF TERM TWO

03/11 Start of autumn 2
14/11 Children in Need
18-20/11 England Rocks Times Tables Competition
19/11 School photos
26/11 Parent/Carer Open Afternoon
01/12 Christmas tree decoration assembly (children may wear a Christmas jumper)
03/12 Carol Concert at St Mary's Church
03/12 Christmas Fayre 2-4pm
15/12 Winter Disco Y3-Y6 5-6.30pm
17/12 Christmas dinner day
19/12 Last day of autumn 2



MESSAGE FROM NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL ROAD SAFETY TEAM



Very sadly, over the last school year, three children were injured after being knocked over by cars outside Nottingham schools. So, as the new term begins, we're asking for your co-operation to keep the roads outside school calm and safe for everyone.

We're asking all parents or carers who drive children to school, can you

- ✓ **BE TIMELY** – Can you try to get to school in good time, so that you can park away from the school, especially the zig-zag lines, and walk your child/children up to the school gates? This will mean better visibility and a safer environment for everyone.
- ✓ **BE CONSIDERATE** – Please can you park considerately; not blocking the pavements or resident's driveways and turning off your vehicle's engine whilst waiting, to reduce pollution?
- ✓ **BE PATIENT** – Can you please drive carefully and be patient whilst driving away from the school? We appreciate everyone has busy lives, however this has been the main cause of previous accidents.

As we go into the new school term, let's do all we can to keep our children safe. Thank you.
Councillor Linda Woodings, Executive member for road safety, Nottingham City Council.