



Year 4 Curriculum Areas (Autumn 2020)

September 11th 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome to another exciting year of adventure and fun. Please find below details of the curriculum areas we are going to cover this term and ideas of how you can help your child through homework and other activities.



English (to include historical documents and sources)

This term we will be immersing ourselves with all things Elizabethan: comprehending primary and secondary sources; investigating how different communities lived and worked; famous people and their accomplishments or notoriety, and the growing influence of Elizabethans within the world. Therefore we will be studying child friendly versions of *Hamlet* and *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare.

There will be weekly grammar and spelling lessons, with differentiated spellings and grammar given as homework on a Friday: Spelling Shed is accessed via the children’s own personal logins. Independent extended writing session will take place every Friday morning, with further opportunities for editing and up-levelling before redrafting.

The children will continue to undertake Guided Reading sessions from Mondays to Thursdays. Please continue to provide your child with support in his/her understanding of what he/she has read by asking questions about the content of his/her reading as well as viewpoints of characters and the author’s choice of vocabulary.

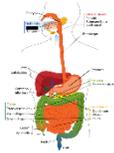


Currently to reduce the possibility of spreading COVID between households and school, the children will not be able to bring books to and fro. Instead, they are able to select books from our library and keep them in their own trays. When these are finished with, these books will go into a minimum of 72 hours of quarantine before returning to the appropriate shelves for others to peruse.

+ **Mathematics** Maths will continue to be taught from White Rose and will cover: Number Work (place value beyond 1000, ordering and sequencing, negative numbers, reading scales, and Roman Numerals); and Calculations (adding, subtracting, multiplication, and division)-using both mental and written strategies of calculating. There will also be links made to how the Elizabethan’s fit into historical timelines and the dates and lineages of the royal family.



Times tables will be part of the weekly homework tasks and will be tested in snippets daily and in depth every Friday. This term we’ll revise the 3, 6, 4 and 8 times tables- instant recall in multiplying and dividing with them is our goal.



Science This half term we will be studying teeth and our digestive system; and food chains (prey and predators).



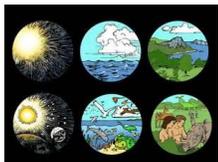
Next half term we will be studying different environments and habitats, and the dangers that they can pose. Furthermore, we will be identifying different animals and using classification keys to group them. To enhance your child's understanding there will be occasions when tasks will be set for homework. Please make links to what you observe first hand.

History: The Elizabethans

Children will have lots of opportunities to ask historically valid questions about the changes during this period and why these could have happened using evidence from a variety of media. There are a plethora of Tudor and Elizabethan properties still evident, and lots of accessible materials in local libraries to support our topic (please check the content for age appropriate suitability).



Computing Discrete computing lessons will take place on Thursday afternoons with Mr. Delaney. Also, children will gain further experience and aptitude using their computer skills when learning about or presenting from other areas of the curriculum. The children will learn about on-line safety and this will continue throughout school life. They will be issued with their own school email address and Google Classroom access to support their studies.



R.E. We begin this term by revisiting Hinduism (interrupted by Lockdown). In particular, the significance of Lord Krishna and identifying the morals of the stories involving him, and the links to Christianity. Following this, we'll study what it means to be a Buddhist in Britain today. Where possible, we'll mark Holy Days and key events from other religions too.



PSHE On Fridays this term, in our SEAL programme, the children will have opportunities to share their thoughts and feelings through discussions and activities based on new beginnings and rules, and links with on-line safety. They will also have related learning to do with equality during Black History Month; resilience/mental well-being; Remembrance Day...



P.E.

P.E. this term will be with Mr. Shillitoe on a Thursday- football (shin pads please), and on a Friday it will be tag rugby with Coventry Rugby Club. Years 3 and 4 Football Club is on a Monday lunchtime with me (Mrs. Rose). Please ensure your child has the appropriate kit and that it is clearly named.

Art/DT



This term the children will be studying Elizabethan artists and their artwork. They will have opportunities to explore composition, and to recreate their own pieces using different tools and styles. The children will also be using ink to produce Elizabethan manuscripts and line drawings. Please provide an old t-shirt or apron to protect your child's uniform.

There will also be opportunities for making clay products (diva lamps...); cooking (fruit crumbles, stews, chocolate logs); and woodwork (peace mats).

Music

In class we will be exploring rhythm, duration, ostinato and structure, and Elizabethan musical instruments, musicians and compositions. Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, there is currently no sung worship or choir. However, Miss Todd and Mr. Brine have devised a varied programme of music to enrich our lives and to broaden our repertoire.



French



This term the children will learn how to follow and to use commands; colours; days of the week; body parts; count to 20; and to use simple greetings.

General Notice- Children are expected to have a pencil case at school with replacement pencils and a glue stick. Please check that these are regularly fit for purpose. This enables children to take ownership of their 'readiness for learning'.

Homework

Homework will soon be available via Google Classroom, look out for further information on this coming soon. Should your family need to self-isolate due to Covid-19, there will also be activities on the school website to support home learning on the first day of absence. For all following days of absence, home learning will be provided to you via email or Google Classroom. This will be for Covid related absence only

Homework will usually consist of 2 Maths and 2 English tasks and 1 R.E. every week:

- Mathematics : times tables to practise (Y4 sit the Government Tests around Easter time)
- Mathematics : A few calculations... to support what we're studying in class
- English : spelling words -> learn the 15-20 words using Spelling Shed (Y4 mostly with some commonly misspelt ones added from previous years)
- English : short comprehension, book review, grammar exercise... via Google Classrooms
- Science/ Topic/ occasionally

Please contact me if you have any queries, concerns or joyful news regarding your child: via e-mail at rose@stlawrenceprimaryschool.co.uk ; and via face to face Monday, Tuesday and Friday after school until 17:00.

Kind Regards,

Mrs. Rose