

Forest and Sandridge C of E Primary School

Curriculum Information Letter- Year 4 January 2022



Dear Parents,

We would like to welcome you back to school and hope that you had a happy Christmas break. In this letter, you will find an overview of the learning that your child will be completing during this Spring Term in school.

Our Focus Values for the Spring Term are Hope and Wisdom.

Our Theme for the Spring Term is: Digging into the past- Victorians

English and Spelling

English:

This term we join Jim Jarvis on his adventures through Victorian London through reading *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty. After being orphaned, Jim finds himself in many terrifying places from the workhouse to a coal barge, meeting many loving and shady characters along the way. We will also continue to develop our use of reading VIPERS within reading lessons and are continuing to build the children's independent reading for enjoyment.

Grammar/Punctuation/Spelling Focus:

Within our English lessons, we will explore the use of pronouns for cohesion, speech punctuation, apostrophes for possession and revise prepositional phrases.

In our school, we practise Spellings rigorously.

We introduce all the words on a Tuesday when we have a really close look at their definitions, morphology and etymology. The rest of the week is dedicated to Phonics work (which is a skill for life!), identifying the focus grapheme in texts, correctly applying the words in sentences and writing from dictation. It is also addressed not only within the dedicated spelling sessions but also during any lessons throughout the day.

Maths

In Maths, we have completed our journey of learning 144 facts of the Times Table! Incorporation of the Times Tables is a daily practice in our classes- we continue to do lots of activities to further embed the knowledge the children have already gained. As always, we are grateful for any additional learning you do at home to support the children in preparation for the Multiplication Tables Check and their time in Y5 and Y6, when mental calculation will become essential. We will also be doing a lot of addition and subtraction using the column method whilst manipulating 4 and 3-digit numbers. The children will also learn to multiply and divide 3-digit numbers by a single-digit number using a formal written method.

RE

This term, we are going to be focusing on Judaism. Our Big Question is 'How special is the relationship Jews have with God?' Within this unit, we will be looking at the promises made between one another as well as exploring cultural stories and readings to deepen understanding of Judaism. The following term our RE will focus on Pentecost and we will be asking 'When Jesus left what was the impact of Pentecost?'

Science

Our science theme this term is Electricity. We will be identifying common appliances that run on electricity and discussing the difference between mains and battery powered appliances. We will construct a simple electrical circuit identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers. We will also explore how a switch opens and closes a circuit and put this into practice. Within this unit we

	will also learn to recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.
Computing	This term, we will be focussing on Information Technology which involves learning how to input commands using different computer software. We will also have an online safety starter at the beginning of every lesson focussing on our online image and identity. We look forward to participating in Safer Internet Day and developing our understanding of how to use the internet safely.
PE + Sports	This term in PE we will be completing a unit on dance. The children will explore creating different movements, transitions and positions both in groups and individually adapting to a range of music and styles. We will also be covering multi skills in some sessions too.
History	The Victorian era was one of growth and discovery. Children will learn what it was like to be a child in Victorian times, where the era fits within the chronology of History, famous figures and a comparison of toys and household objects to today.
Geography	In term 4 we will be looking at the water cycle along with volcanoes and the significant impact these have on our environment.
Art and Design	Alongside our theme of Victorians, we will be learning about the Victorian artist William Morris. We will research his influences and style of art and use this to plan and influence our own block printing designs.
D.T	In Term 4, we will be learning about electric mechanicals and using our knowledge from our previous science unit to support this.
MFL	In French, our theme is 'Going Shopping'. The children will learn to use the vocabulary for fruits, vegetables and clothes as well as greetings and responses. The children will apply their new vocabulary in role play situations to help secure their knowledge and confidence.
PSHEE/SRE	Our PSHE topic is Dreams and Goals. The children will be identifying dreams and goals and why it is important to have ambitions. We will look at inspiring stories of people who have overcome challenge whilst working towards something and link this to our value of courage.
Music	This term, in Music, we will be incorporating the Spanish language into our lessons. We will be looking at the language as well as traditional songs and rhythms and using these to help inspire our own compositions. We will also be looking at the importance of music to tell stories.
Attendance	This year we have a school target of 97% for all pupils. It is very important that your child attends school every day that they are fit and well. Please check our website or telephone the school office if you are unsure about whether to send your child into school or not. Pupils with attendance of less than 90% are regarded by the Government as having Persistent Absence and pupils with attendance in danger of falling to this level will be invited into school for support and an action plan will be developed (to restore their attendance to a level that will allow them to achieve well at school).
Learning at Home	To support children's learning we greatly encourage regular reading at home, this can be any text type (not just books from school). Children will also benefit from regularly practicing their spellings and maths attack. Please continue to support your children at home in these areas.
Important Information	We will continue to complete Maths Attack on a Wednesday and our spelling test will be on a Monday but there is also a big focus on times tables. In school we practice all of our timetables on a regular basis and encourage children to utilise Times Tables Rockstars at home too.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us on Class Dojo,

Miss Butcher, Mrs Johnson, Ms Tape and Mrs Fowler