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Y E A R 4

Newsletter

What we have been up to:

In Year 4 we have been settling into our new classes and classrooms.

4Lions have also started swimming lessons, which all classes will have throughout Year 4.

We have begun our science 'States of Matter' unit by discussing what will happen when three balloons containing air, ice and water are popped.



Enjoying an assembly about Wind and Brass Instruments from Bedford Music Hub.



Curriculum:

English

We have started this half-term looking at the fictional book 'Middleworld' by P&J Voelkel which is based around the Maya. We have been working towards writing our own informal letter from the perspective of the main character Max.

Continuing with 'Middleworld' as our stimulus material for English, we will then move on to writing our own narrative piece based around the characters and events from the text so far.

How can I help at home?

Reading at home with your child regularly will help to support their vocabulary development and also their comprehension skill.

Encourage your child to practise their spellings daily as well as writing them in sentences to understand context.

Maths

We begin the year revising and developing our knowledge of Place Value. This unit of work explores numbers up to 10,000 on a number line, rounding numbers to the nearest 10 and 100 and 1000, adding 1, 10 and 100 more or less, comparing and ordering numbers, partitioning numbers in to thousands, hundreds, tens and ones, counting in 25s and reading roman numerals.

We will then be moving onto Addition and Subtraction where we will be learning written methods for adding and subtracting with 4 digit numbers.

For more details, take a look at the White Rose Maths website.

How can I help at home?

Encourage your child to be practising TTRockstars for 25 minutes each week.

Science

Our science topic for this half term is 'The States of Matter'. We will be learning about solids, liquids and gases. We will investigate how solids can turn into liquids, make observations of frozen liquids, set up a competitive test of evaporation, explore condensation and learn how evaporation and condensation fit into the water cycle



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Curriculum:

Personal Development

Our PD topic is 'Being Me in the World'. We will be learning about what a good team member and citizen looks like. This topic focuses on behaviour, rights and responsibilities.

RE

In Religious Education pupils will be focusing on the unit 'Where, how and why do people worship?' They will be learning about Jewish, Muslim and Christian Worship.

Geography

We start this our Geography lessons this year learning about South America. We will be using atlases to find South America and identify and label countries, learning about compass points and grid references. We will be exploring famous landmarks in South America and finding out about festivals and customs. We will conclude the unit by creating a brochure about South America using the knowledge and skills we have learnt.

Computing

Our computing focus for the start of the year is internet safety. We will learn how to use technology safely and responsibly, recognise unacceptable online behaviour and identify ways to report concerns.

Curriculum:

Art

Frida Kahlo is our focus artist for our art lessons. We will be examining some of her paintings and discuss her use of colour and how the images make us feel. We will be using Kahlo's portraits as inspiration for our own self portraits using sketching pencils to draw facial features.

French

This half term we will learn the seasons, the month, the days of the week and the numbers 20-31 in French. This will lead on to pupils being able to say the date in French and when their birthday is. Pupils will continue to learn and practise key French phonemes in order to improve their pronunciation. Pupils will sing songs and play games in French.

French is taught by Madame Williams

Performing Arts

In Year 4 pupils study Performing Arts on a rotation. Pupils will have two terms of music, a half term of drama and a half term of dance. In drama with Mr Skeel, Tigers are exploring stories shared across the world. Pupils are learning how to rehearse and perform with a script and apply characterisation skills (voice, body language and facial expression) to tell a believable story to the audience. In music with Miss Green, Leopards will be learning how to rehearse and perform a variety of songs, exploring genres and their conventions. Learning an instrument is an important life-long skill. Mr Serino will be teaching Lions class this half term to play the recorder through the whole class recorder orchestra.

Curriculum:

PE

This half term, pupils will be developing their skills in fundamentals and ball skills. Their ball skills lessons for this half term will be taught by specialist PE teachers from the Secondary teachers. Our fundamentals lessons will develop the skills of balancing and their ability to change direction with balance and control. Children will also be given the opportunity to explore how the body moves at different speeds and how to accelerate and decelerate.

Reminders / Key Dates:

Autumn term

5 September - 16 December

Training day

21 October

School closed for pupils

Half term

24 October - 28 October

Children return to school

31 October