

Year Four

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Overview of learning in the foundation subjects</u>
History	<i>This year our main history topics have been the Ancient Egyptians and the Anglo-Saxons. When learning about Ancient Egypt, the children found out about mummification, hieroglyphics, gods and goddesses and everyday life and culture. They investigated daily life in the Anglo-Saxon period, found out about Anglo-Saxon place names and the beginnings of Christianity in England. They also looked at the range of sources historians use to find out about the past and how useful these are.</i>
Geography	<i>In geography this year, we have used atlases and other sources to locate deserts and discover how they are formed. The children have had the opportunity to consider and explore adaptations of the plants and animals that live in them. In the spring term, we learnt about extreme weather, with a focus on thunderstorms and shipwrecks. They found out how storms are formed and the effects of them on human life. They have also explored how Anglo Saxons chose where to settle and make use of the land around them.</i>
Art	<i>The children have been taught many skills this year and the majority of lessons have been inspired by our topic work. They have been taught how to use and join clay to make Egyptian canopic jars. They have explored sketching techniques and media including charcoal and pastels, evaluating what they have produced. They also created a storm picture using these skills, based upon the work of the artist Turner. They have had the opportunity to explore Anglo Saxon pattern work and apply printing techniques to create their own pattern.</i>
DT	<i>The children have had the opportunity to write design briefs and specifications for different projects this year, as well as to make and then evaluate what they have made. They have been taught to use a variety of materials and tools safely. They have had experience of making bread using different combinations of ingredients. The children have investigated, designed and made cam toys, and a model lighthouse which was linked to our electricity topic in science. We have also had the opportunity to use computer aided design to create and test bridges.</i>
PE	<i>Following the 'Real PE' scheme, children have explored static and moving balances, ball skills and reaction times all while developing their social and personal skills and self-confidence. They have covered new skills in a variety of outdoor games including hockey, netball, tennis, rounders, cricket and athletics. In the spring term the children focussed on swimming at Bracknell Swimarium and all worked on developing or improving their strokes and skills.</i>
RE	<i>In RE this year, we have focused on the use of Murtis in Hinduism, comparing prayer in different religions and the miracles of Jesus. After learning about Hinduism, the children's knowledge was then enhanced with a trip to Neasden Mandir in London, a useful learning experience for the children. Throughout our topics, the children were lucky enough to handle artefacts and discuss and evaluate the practice and beliefs of different religions.</i>
Music	<i>This year the children have learnt how to appraise music, giving their own opinions on different genres of music. They have also learnt musical terms such as 'pitch', 'melody', 'pulse' and 'genre' as well as looking at conventional and non-conventional musical notation. They have begun to use musical notation to play pitched instruments (glockenspiels). They have also learned and performed a variety of songs using increasing accuracy and expression.</i>
Computing	<i>This year, the children have developed their programming and simple coding skills with 'Scratch'. They have explored creativity through computing by composing their own music using online software, designing an educational game and creating an interactive toy prototype. They have been taught how to write simple HTML, the language in which webpages are written, in order to edit and design webpages.</i>
PSHE	<i>In PSHE this year, we have discussed setting personal goals and handling mistakes, as well as the importance of a healthy lifestyle – recognising individuality, dealing with emotions and keeping safe online. The children have continued to explore 'Habits of Mind', which provide a framework of how to behave intelligently when they do not know the answer or when faced with uncertainty. We have also studied democracy and the voting system.</i>
French	<i>This year we have focussed on furthering the children's knowledge of the French language, improving pronunciation and recognising simple written words and phrases.</i>

	<p><i>The children have been taught how to ask and answer questions and discuss what the weather is like. We have covered topics on pets, personal details and where they live, food and travel.</i></p>
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