

Areas of study – Year 4 – Summer 2021

Literacy

This term, our English will share many cross-curricular links to our History and Geography topic, Anglo Saxons. We will begin by looking at myths and legends, focusing on the tale of Beowulf, one of the oldest known pieces of literature in the English language. The children will explore the rich vocabulary used in the text and use it as inspiration to write their own mythical stories of heroes and villains. We will go on to look at the features of play scripts, with the aim of the pupils writing their own scenes, incorporating the features learnt and ultimately practising it and performing it to their classmates. The pupils will also learn about Kennings and how they were used in Old English poetry. They will have the opportunity to create their own poems using Kennings. We will then go on to explore newspapers. The children will have the chance to look at examples of different types of newspaper, analyse the features found in newspaper articles and discuss what makes a good headline. They will go on to create their own newspaper front page, as if they were reporting on Beowulf's defeat of Grendel and his mother.

Numeracy

This term, the children will recap on place value and they will use rounding to help estimate answers to real life problems with addition and subtraction. They will also use the inverse to check their answers. They will use the distributive maths laws to multiply two digit numbers by one digit mentally. When working with statistics, children will record and interpret information on bar charts and solve problems using information presented in bar charts, pictograms and tables. They will begin to read and interpret line graphs. They will also recap formal written methods for multiplication and division. The children will continue practising their times table and related division facts, with a focus on the speed of their recall. They will convert between different measures and solve word problems.

Reading

During our Guided Reading sessions this term, we will be studying a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts, including *Anglo-Saxon Boy* by Tony Bradman, *You Wouldn't Want to be an Anglo-Saxon Peasant* by Jaqueline and *A Girl Called Justice* by Elly Griffiths. Through our English lessons, the pupils will also experience a wide variety of other styles of text, such as newspapers, poetry and explanation texts. The pupils will also be receiving reading comprehensions as part of their English homework.

This term, to encourage the children to read for pleasure at home, we will be inviting pupils to bring in photos of themselves reading in unusual places. They will have the opportunity to share their photo with their class and it will then be displayed in their classroom.

MFL

During the first half term, we will be looking at the vocabulary required to be able to order food and drinks from a French café. Pupils will practise asking for the bill and using pleasantries such as '*s'il vous plait*', '*merci*', '*bonjour*' and '*au revoir*' (please, thank you, hello and goodbye). They will have the opportunity to role play ordering in a café, both as the server and the customer.

In the second half term, the children will be introduced to the French version of the story '*Boucle D'or et les Trois Ours*' (Goldilocks and the Three Bears). They will listen to and join with the reading of the story in French and sequence short French phrases given about the storyline. Finally, they will create their own storyboards, retelling the story.

PSHE/RSHE

This term, children will begin by focusing on their Growth Mindset. We will link this to our Habits of Mind focus - 'striving for accuracy'. Children will then focus on physical health and mental wellbeing, where they will consider ways in which they can maintain a healthy, balanced lifestyle. Later on in the year, the children will be learning about growing and changing as they get older.

RE

In this term during RE, the children will be focussing on the question of why religious leaders and sacred texts are important to followers. In order to answer this question, they will begin by exploring the traits of a good leader. The children will then look at important/special books they have, considering why these are important to them. Finally, the children will then look in turn at the religions of Christianity, Hinduism and Islam, learning about their leaders and their holy books. By the end of the term we would expect the children to be able to describe and explain some similarities and differences between these three religions and how they use their holy books.

PE

In PE, we will be focussing on increasing our reaction speeds during the first half term. To help develop this, the children will be working on a number of activities using balls of varying sizes. Each week, the activities will get progressively more challenging as pupils' skill levels increase. They will also be investigating the difference to their performance when using their dominant versus their non-dominant hand. After half term, we will turn our attention to practising for the events which will be part of the Sports Day proceedings. Pupils will get the opportunity to re-familiarise themselves with equipment they will be using during the events and hone their running, jumping and throwing skills.

Geography

For Geography this term, the children will be focussing their studies on Settlement. This will be cross-curricular with History as they find out how the towns and cities of the UK first developed. Children will learn about the needs and requirements of the early settlers and how this influenced their choice of where to settle. They will look at place names around the UK to see how the Anglo-Saxons, Romans and Vikings all left their mark. Through use of digital and paper maps, children will investigate land use in different sized settlements and the ways in which settlements are linked together. At the end of the unit, children will draw together all their learning about settlements to design their own new settlement!

History

In History this term, we will be studying the Anglo-Saxon era. The children will investigate and evaluate reasons why the Anglo-Saxons came to Britain. Then they will research how the Anglo-Saxons lived based on evidence from archaeological digs and how they have influenced the Britain we know today. We will be focussing on the discovery of the famous Anglo-Saxon long boat found at Sutton Hoo. Finally, using what we have discovered from Sutton Hoo and Tutankhamun (from the previous term), we will ask the children to think about and decide whether archaeologists are right to disturb ancient burial places in their quest for information about the past.

Science

Our first topic this half term is 'Sound'. The children will identify how sounds are made and begin to understand the way in which sound travels through solids, liquids and gases and that sounds get fainter as they move away from an object. Children will investigate links between the pitch of a sound and the features of the object that produced it. They will also investigate the best material for absorbing sound.

During the second half to the term, our topic will be 'Living Things and their Habitats'. Children will learn about the seven life processes. They will explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in the local environment. Children will recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.

Music

In the first half term, the children will be continuing to develop their knowledge of rhythm and pulse. They will begin to explore the different beats in a bar to be able to recognise time signatures when a piece of music is played.

In the second half term, the children will begin to explore percussion. They will explore the different sounds that different instruments make and see how they can use household objects for percussion. After this, they will look at body percussion. Using skills learnt over this half term, they will begin to compose their own pieces of music based on the rhythms learnt in the first term.

Computing

In the first half of this term, the children will be designing and creating their own computer game using Scratch software. Before starting on the computers, they investigate different styles of games and draw up a plan of what their game will look like, how the character will move and what the aim of the game will be. They will then go on to explore the capabilities of the Scratch software and use it to create their characters and backdrop. Next, the pupils will use coding for complex movement and debug, edit and enhance the script for their game. Finally, they will evaluate the effectiveness of their game.

During the second half of the term, we will be focussing on computational thinking. Computational thinking allows us to take a complex problem, understand what the problem is and develop possible solutions. We will be using our previous experience of using Scratch to detect and debug errors in code. This will lead us on to coding our own sound monitors to use in and around school.

Art, Design & Technology

In the first half term, the children will learn about the artist Andy Warhol and carefully look at his style of work. They will explore the use of different contrasting colours, plan and create their own piece of work based on Andy Warhol's work. Finally, they will evaluate their work.

During the second part of the summer term children will design and make a toy that has a cam mechanism. They will begin by investigate toys with moving cam mechanisms and look at ways of strengthening structures in a moving toy. Then children will design a toy and follow their design to create a toy with a cam mechanism. When they have finished, children will evaluate their final work, looking at what worked well and how they could improve it if they were to make it again.

[*If you require additional information relating to our school curriculum, please ask at the school office or the class teacher.](#)