

Engage, Enquire, Excel at Millfield

This curriculum newsletter provides you with an overview of the learning your child will enjoy over the Summer term.

Year 4

Welcome Back! It was so lovely to welcome you all back after a restful Easter break. The children settled back at school really well with the change of teachers. They have shown a great deal of enthusiasm with regards to their new learning challenges. We have had a very busy few weeks back, with a PSHE focus on 'Medicines' within 'Healthy and Safer Lifestyles'.

Engagement and Enquiry through our Learning Challenge: What was the earliest civilisation?

The Learning Challenge for this half term has been a history focus on Ancient Civilisation including the Ancient Sumers and Ancient Egyptians. To begin the topic, we started in Mesopotamia, which is now known as Iraq. Through farming, we learnt about how the Ancient Sumers settled down and started to create their own settlements. Afterwards, we will be learning about Ancient Egyptians, where we will focus on hieroglyphics, pyramids and gods and goddesses. We will also learn about their innovative tools for farming, their art and their culture.

KEY VOCABULARY: Ancient Civilisations, Ancient Summer, cities, rulers, inventions, food and farming, Ancient Egypt, Indus Valley, civilisation, Fertile Crescent, irrigation, nomadic, ziggurat

While developing their skills as historians by

- Use more complex historical terms to explain and present historical information.
- Present a thoughtful selection of relevant information in a historical report, fictional narrative, in-depth study or by answering a range of historical questions.
- Describe the hierarchy and different roles in ancient civilisations.
- Construct a profile of a significant leader using a range of historical sources.
- Explain how the design, decoration and materials used to make an artefact can provide evidence of the wealth, power and status of the object's owner.
- Construct a narrative, chronological or non-chronological account of a past civilisation, focusing on their features and achievements.
- Create an in-depth study of the characteristics and importance of a past or ancient civilisation or society (people, architecture, religion, culture, art, politics, hierarchy).

English

This term we are focussing on grammar, looking specifically at writing good complex and compound sentences. English and Guided Reading continued to be linked with the learning in LCC and we often look at the same text for both English and Guided Reading. The children are encouraged to use a variety of sentence structures in their descriptive writing in order to engage the reader more. Within Guided Reading and English, there has been a focus on descriptive writing and understanding what is happening in a picture. The children have continued to develop their inference skills, which has allowed them to

collect information ready for their writing.

After half term, the children will be focusing on writing non-chronological reports about electricity and conductors. In Guided Reading lessons, we will be focusing on non-chronological reports by reading and understanding texts, such as, 'Making a Circuit!'

Maths

Maths this term will focus on fractions, decimals, money, time and shape. Every topic we explore in maths will always have opportunities for problem solving and reasoning. We have recently been focusing on the problem solving skills, 'Working systematically.' After half term, the children will be taking their multiplication test. They need to know all their times tables up to 12 x 12 and are having the opportunity to answer times tables questions everyday. Every maths lesson will start with times tables learning and practising using TT Rockstars.

The wider curriculum linked to our Learning Challenge:

Linked with the History topic in LCC, 'What was the earliest civilisation?' the children will be creating their own 'tomb builders.' Using skills learnt from previous design technology lessons, the children will create a model of a simple pulley system that would help someone build a tomb!

In Science, the focus will be on electrical circuits and conductors. The children will have the opportunity to make their own electrical circuits and explore why and how they work. There will be plenty of opportunities for the children to complete various scientific investigations.

Overview of all subjects within the wider curriculum

PE: Co-operation, Communication and Consideration as well as Striking and fielding in the first half term and Sports Day Practice and Pentathlon in the second half term.

Science: Electrical circuits and conductors.

Computing: 'Online safety' and 'Evaluating Digital Content' using Google Slides in the first half term and 'Programming' in the second half term.

PSHE: Healthy and Safer Lifestyles and Drug Education linked to being safe around medicine.

RE: Islam - What is Eid ul-Adha? Judaism - Do we need a day of rest?

Art: Statues, statuettes and figurines linked with Ancient Civilisations.

DT: 'Tomb builders' - creating a model of a simple pulley system.

Music: Music appreciation, singing and finding the pulse

French: Dates including days of the week, months, birthdays and asking questions.

Useful Information

Home Learning: Homework will be sent home every Friday and will need to be returned the following Wednesday. We will be sending home a paper copy of the home learning but will also be uploading the homework to the Google Classroom, which your child will have access to soon. Homework will involve a Maths activity, spelling words from the previous week and daily reading, including a variety of other choices in the form of 'Homework Bingo.' Children should be reading to an adult at least three times a week.

PE kit: Please ensure that PE kits are in school all week. An outdoor kit should be included and take into account the more inclement weather. Children must remove jewellery and tie hair back before the P.E. lesson. Please make sure that your child can remove their jewellery independently or not wear it on the days which they have P.E.

4N - PE on a Wednesday and Thursday. Both indoor and outdoor kits are needed.

4S - PE on a Wednesday and Thursday. Both indoor and outdoor kits are needed.

Useful websites- for both children and parents**Maths:**

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/problem-solving>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/category/22/most-popular>

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/ttrs/dashboard>

English:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/spelling-in-year-3-and-year-4>

<https://www.onceuponapicture.co.uk/>

<http://www.pobble365.com/>

<https://boomhub.app/redirectAfterLogin/6?targetUrl=/>