



The Blake CE Primary School

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Loving, learning and flourishing in community

Year 4 Curriculum Overview

Year 4 Newsletter Autumn Term

Welcome to Year 4!

Hello and welcome to Year 4! The children have settled in well and are working hard. We are all looking forward to a happy and successful year and hope this newsletter will provide all the information you need to support your child. The Year 4 team aim to bring the curriculum alive for your child, by providing a wide variety of learning opportunities over the year, as well as supporting individual learning where appropriate.

Times of the School Day

Year 4 open their cloakroom doors at 8:55am. We would ask for your support in ensuring that the children arrive promptly in the morning. The doors are locked at 9:05am and any latecomers must enter through the school office, where a register of late arrivals is kept. Break time is from 10:40am - 10:55am. Lunch time starts at 12:00pm and finishes at 1:00pm; Year 4 go out to break at 12:00pm and eat their lunch in the hall at 12:40pm. The Year 4 school day finishes at 3:15pm.

Collective Worship

During the week, we have an act of worship every day, either as an assembly, which is in two sessions (Years 4, 5, and 6 then Years 1, 2 and 3) in the hall or in our classrooms. The children end every day with a reflection time, when the children think about the things they have achieved during the day and then say the school prayer.

Curriculum

Subjects such as Maths, English (including spelling and grammar), Science, PE, RE and PSHE tend to be taught separately, but other subjects may be taught in a cross-curricular manner through 'topics'. For example, our Stone Age topic links History, English and Art.

Emotional and Social Development

Through our PSHE lessons and SEAL (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning) groups, the children learn skills that help them to get on with others in a positive way. We find this helps them to foster good relationships in the playground and the classroom.

PE

PE kit is required to be in school on a Monday for both Year 4 Classes. It is important that your child has their PE kit in school at all times, in case the time is changed, or it is needed for another activity.

Our PE kit is as follows;

- Indoor kit - Plain white T-shirt (with or without school logo) and black shorts
- Outdoor kit - Plain white T-shirt (with or without school logo), black shorts or jogging bottoms, sweatshirt (for cold weather) and trainers

Long hair needs to be tied back for PE, so a hair-tie should be brought in, if required. **Earrings need to be removed by the child prior to the start of the lesson.** Some children choose not to wear earrings on PE days, as they find this easier. PE is part of our curriculum and therefore all children are expected to take part. If there is a medical reason why they cannot participate, a letter signed by a parent or carer is required.

Homework

Homework tasks are related to the week's work or cross-curricular topic. Usually spellings, timetables and one other piece of work will be set on Friday. We collect it in on the following Wednesday, thus giving time during the weekend or the week to complete the work. Occasionally, we will set a more project-based homework and give longer for it to be completed. Homework should be mainly done by the child, with support, if required. Some parents have written on the work the amount of support needed and level of difficulty or ease experienced by the child; this is very helpful to us. Of course, your child may also write a short comment themselves. We understand that family life is often busy, so please let us know if your child is unable to complete their homework one week; we can be flexible!

Reading

The children are continuing to use their home/school reading diaries from last year. Please feel free to write in these, as well as your child. We cannot stress enough the importance of reading with your child at home, as reading is a necessary skill for all work at school. Book bags with reading books and diaries should be brought to school every day. Our reading diaries have information and questions that you can ask your child in relation to their books. As well as reading accurately and fluently, your child needs to be able to discuss what they have read, referring to the text to back up their answers. They are also working on developing the skills and confidence to read aloud, with expression, to an audience, e.g. reading a story to the rest of the class. Your child will have access to books from the Year 4 reading area.

We look forward to a happy and successful term. Please do not hesitate to contact us, if you have any queries. It is best to do this through email, rather than on the door, due to current social distancing restrictions.

Yours sincerely,

The Year 4 Team

Class 4ZL

Class Teacher: Mrs Lynch

Teaching Assistants:

Mrs Smith and Miss Knipe

Class 4LR

Class Teacher: Mrs Rump

Teaching Assistants:

Mrs Khan

Curriculum Overview Terms 1 and 2

Across the first two terms we will be covering the following areas in our curriculum:

English:

- Individual, shared and guided reading using a range of texts - fiction and non-fiction
- Note-taking for use in cross curricular work
- Descriptive scene and character writing
- Letter and diary writing
- Stories using a historical setting
- Poetry linked to Harvest and Autumn
- On-going spelling and grammar work using statutory word lists for Year 3 and 4
- Speaking and listening skills - presenting information
- Wild animal non-fiction research and writing
- Focus texts: The Day the Crayons Quit, Way Home and Butterfly Lion

PSHE:

- Family Links
- Values of the month - Unity/co-operation, honesty, compassion and thankfulness

RE:

Term 1 Big Question - Does the church make a difference in my community?

This will be explored through:

- How the school values make a difference to the school community
- Visiting a church
- Ask questions to people of faith

The time of Harvest will also be explored through a visit to High Street Methodist Church.

Term 2 Big Question - Should Christians worship Mary?

This will be explored through a focus on the Christmas story.

PE:

- Invasion Games (including key skills)

Maths:

- Place value, ordering numbers - including negative numbers
- Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division - using mental strategies and written methods
- Length and perimeter

KIRFS (Key Instant Recall Facts)

- Number bonds to 100
- Multiplication and division facts for up to 12 x 12

French:

- Parts of the Body (including clothes)
- Counting to 31
- Months
- My Home

Music:

We will be using Charanga to explore pulse, pitch and rhythm in different songs. This will involve singing and using different instruments. We will start of by exploring the song 'Mamma Mia' by ABBA.

Computing (ICT):

- Coding
- Online safety

Science:

- Scientific skills - observation and measuring
- Electricity - making a circuit, how it is made, renewable and non-renewable sources.

Art and Design Technology:

- Self portraits
- Observational drawings using oil pastels and colouring pencils
- Salt dough Christmas themed DT project
- Christmas cards