

# Year 4 Newsletter

## Summer 2

Our topic/theme this half term is:

# Raging Rivers!

In this topic, we will use geographical skills to investigate the journey of a river from source to sea.

## Our English learning this half term:

### Reading:

**In Guided Reading this half term, we will be focusing on the following objectives:**

Continue to listen to and discuss a wide range of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, plays and reference texts.

Identify the main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and summarise these.

Draw inferences, such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence clearly taken from the text.

Identify how language can be used to contribute to meaning (ie to persuade, to entertain).

Use dictionaries to check the meaning of words that we have read.

### Writing:

**In Year 4, we will be developing the following writing skills:**

Plan his/her writing by discussing writing similar to that which we are planning to write.

Draft and write by organising paragraphs around a theme.

Draft and write non-narrative material, using simple organisational devices.

Evaluate and edit by proposing changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistency, including the accurate use of pronouns in sentences, expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials.

Confidently read writing aloud to a group or the whole class, using appropriate intonation and controlling tone and volume so that the meaning is clear.

**We will be writing explanation texts and diary entries, developing the following skills:**

Using well-chosen language to engage the reader.

Use topic sentences to structure our paragraphs.

Use a range of sentence openers.

Use appropriate vocabulary to the text type and audience – e.g. using technical vocabulary in our explanation texts.

Use emotive language within diary entries.

Use connecting adverbs and phrases.

**In grammar, we will be learning about the following areas:** paragraphs, causal conjunctions, using a dictionary, plural possessive apostrophes, past and present perfect tense.

## Our Maths learning this half term:

We will revisit some of our work on statistics and decimals before focusing on measure.

### Geometry - position and direction

Describe positions on a 2D grid, as coordinates in the first quadrant, describe movements between positions, translation left, right, up and down, plot specific points and draw sides to complete a polygon

### Statistics

Interpret and present discrete and continuous data using appropriate graphical methods, including bar charts and time graphs.

Solve comparison, sum and difference problems using information presented in bar charts, pictograms, tables and other graphs.

### Measure

Convert different units of measurement e.g. I can convert kilometres into metres or hours into minutes.

Estimate, compare and calculate different measures, including money in pounds and pence.

Read, write and compare time between analogue and digital 12-hour and 24-hour clocks.

Solve problems where I need to convert units of time such as hours to minutes, minutes to seconds, years to months or weeks to days.

## Our Science and Computing learning this half term:

### Science – Environmental Change

Our unit of science this half term is focused on the environment and the impact of humans upon it, both negative and positive. We will be covering the following knowledge areas:

- Identify different living things in our local, and the wider, environment.
- Recognise how environments can change and the dangers this can pose to living things.
- Understand the key processes in the water cycle.
- Identify the features of a river system

#### **We will be developing the following enquiry skills:**

Recognise when a simple fair test is necessary and help to decide how to set it up  
Group, sort and classify using criteria and simple keys

Recognise when and how secondary sources need to be used to answer questions  
Make systematic observations. Make decisions about what observations to make, how long to make them for and the type of equipment needed

Notice natural patterns and decide what data to collect to identify them.

### Computing

**Our unit of computing this half term will be on programming, with a focus on repetition.**

To list an everyday task as a set of instructions including repetition

To use an indefinite loop to produce a given outcome

To use a count-controlled loop to produce a given outcome

To plan a program that includes loops to produce a given outcome

To recognise tools that enable more than one process to be run at the same time

To create two or more sequences that run at the same time

## Our Humanities learning this half term:

### Geography:

Our geography learning will focus upon rivers and their characteristics.

We will be developing the following geographical skills:

**Locational knowledge:** Use a map or atlas to locate some countries and cities in Europe and rivers around the world

**Place knowledge:** Compare and describe similarities and differences between some regions in Europe and the UK

**Physical geography:** Explore rivers within the UK and Europe and their importance to human geography.

**Human geography:** Can describe the main land uses within urban areas and the activities that take place there; explore the importance of rivers upon settlements and their location.

**Geographical skills:** Use a range of methods including sketch maps, plans, graphs and digital technologies.

### RE:

In RE, we will be exploring sacred texts and their importance, and answer the question 'what moral guidance do sacred texts provide?'

### Spanish:

In Spanish this half term, we will be looking at naming types of weather, asking and answering questions about what the weather is like today and writing and performing a weather forecast in Spanish.

## Our Creative Arts learning this half term:

### Art:

We will be developing our use of sculpture, painting and drawing to create Viking inspired festival feasts! Through this we will explore how an individual piece of artwork can contribute to a larger shared piece.

We will develop the following skills:

- Use sketchbooks to collect and record visual information from different sources.
- Develop techniques to create drawings from still imagery and from life
- Use different modelling materials to create sculpture
- Collaborative skills

### Music:

- Improvise using digital and acoustic instruments - use a pentatonic scale. Create rhythms that explore the indicative musical features
- Develop rhythms with structure and accompaniment.
- Performing as an ensemble/ band. Using tuned and non - tuned percussion, perform the repertoire rehearsed.
- Play the dedicated parts from stave and/or memory.

## Our PE and PSHE learning this half term:

### PE: Our PE units this half term are Athletics and Rounders

#### **Athletics**

Use the push and pull technique, perfect the long jump and learn the triple jump technique. Develop running speeds to be used within a competitive environment and learn the full relay with a baton.

#### **Rounders**

Continue to develop their knowledge of rounders. Learn the basic rules and introduce scoring to make it competitive. Develop bowling (speed), fielding (overarm throw) and introduce batting technique.

### PSHE:

#### Our unit this half term is 'Healthy Lifestyles'.

- Know that they can make choices which are healthy or unhealthy and reflect on their own lifestyle.
- Know that eating healthily, being active and sleeping all contribute to a healthy lifestyle.
- Understand some of the reasons people sometimes make unhealthy choices.
- Be able to talk about some of the physical and mental benefits of exercise.
- Know that a healthy lifestyle involves choosing a range of activities, some of which will be more active than others.
- Be able to state some of the influences on food choices and some of the persuasive methods used in advertising.
- Understand why our bodies need foods from each of the food groups and be able to suggest daily menus or meals.
- Be able to talk about the benefits of food for our bodies and plan and prepare simple healthy meals or snacks.
- Know why dental hygiene is important and how they can look after their teeth.

## Key Vocabulary

### Key Vocabulary for this half term:

**Maths:** count, tally, sort, data graph, block graph, bar chart, tally chart table, frequency table, label, axis, comparison, line graph, interpret, co-ordinate, plotted, mistake, translation, pound, pence, money, months, analogue, digital, fortnight, millennium, year, leap year, elapsed, difference, interval, arrive, depart, digital, analogue

**English:** topic sentence, paragraph, introduction, sub-heading, facts, diagram, present tense, sentence, clause, causal/explanation connective, statement, command, question, rhetorical question, technical vocabulary, chronological order,

**Science:** environment, climate, habitat, global warming, deforestation, conservation, species, adaptation, greenhouse effect,

#### Geography:

rivers, stream, lake, sea, channel, source, mouth, waterfall, delta, floodplain, tributary, current, rapids, meander, valley, riverbanks, stage, upper course, middle course, lower course, water cycle, condensation, evaporation, precipitation, water run-off, deposit, altitude, erodes, sediment, floods, droughts, rainfall and river study.