

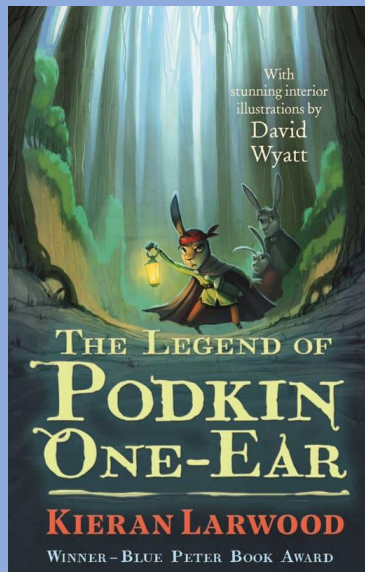
Year 4 Newsletter

Spring 2

Our topic/theme this half term is:

Magnificent Maps!

In this topic, we will be exploring maps. We will be considering how these have changed over time and what they can tell us about how land is used. Our key text is 'The Legend of Podkin One-Ear'.



Our English learning this half term:

Reading:

In Reading this half term, we will be reading extracts from 'Arthur and the Golden Rope', 'The Brilliant Deep', 'Hello H2O', as well as some poetry and non-fiction texts about the Vikings. We will be focusing on the following objectives:

- Identify main ideas from more than one paragraph and summarise these.
- Check that the text makes sense, discussing understanding and explaining the meaning of words in context.
- Recognise some different forms of poetry e.g. free verse, narrative poetry
- Retrieve and record information from non-fiction over a wide range of subjects.

Writing:

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

- Draft and write by composing and rehearsing sentences orally, building a rich and varied vocabulary and using sentence structure.
- Draft and write non-narrative materials, using simple organisational devices
- Evaluate and edit by assessing the effectiveness of his/her own writing.
- Proof-read for spelling and punctuation errors, including the use of the apostrophe for possession, speech punctuation and the use of the comma for fronted adverbials.

We will be writing news reports and will be focusing on the following skills:

- Use the third person and an appropriate informative tone
- Include quotations, which are accurately punctuated.
- Link ideas to create flow through use of different sentence openers.

We will be writing journey stories and we will be focussing on the following skills:

- Use possessive apostrophes and contractions.
- Write cohesively for a specific audience
- Create settings, characters and a plot.
- Use inverted commas to indicate speech.

Our Maths learning this half term:

Fractions

Recognise and show, using diagrams, families of common equivalent fractions.

Count up and down in hundredths and know that dividing an object by 100 creates hundredths as does dividing tenths by ten.

Solve problems involving fractions to calculate quantities and fractions to divide quantities.

Add and subtract fractions with the same denominator.

Solve simple money and measure problems involving fractions.

Decimals

Recognise and show the values of tenths and hundredths.

Divide 1 and 2 digit numbers by tenths and hundredths.

Understand the relationship between tenths and hundredths as fractions and decimals.

We will continue to develop our counting and times tables skills throughout our lessons, in preparation for the Multiplication Check in the Summer term.

Our Science and Computing learning this half term:

Science

Science Our unit of science this half term is focused on habitats, adaptations to habitats, food chains and classification. We will be covering the following knowledge areas:

- Construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey. We will be developing the following enquiry skills:
- Group, sort and classify using criteria and simple keys. Raise relevant questions and use different forms of enquiry to answer them.
- Collect and record data in a variety of ways.

Computing

Our unit of computing this half term is focused on creating media, working with images.

- I can delete photos that I no longer need.
- I can transfer my photos to the computer.
- I can edit my image by cropping it or adding effects.
- I can talk about photo size and resolution and the need to resize some photographs.
- I can create a digital image using layers.
- I can combine images to create a new image.

Our digital literacy focus this half term will be using the internet to find information.

Our Humanities learning this half term:

Geography:

We will deepen our understanding of the geography of the United Kingdom, focusing in this unit on the topographical features of the UK – ie. the hills, mountains and coasts.

Different map types will be used to explore these - including beginning to use OS and digital mapping to identify contours, compass points and grid references. Links will be made to history to allow children to identify how geographical features can have a significant impact upon human activity.

Ensure knowledge of the countries, capitals and major cities of the UK is secure.

Consider how places have changed over time and how land use has changed over history. Build on this by identifying some key topographical features of the United Kingdom (hills, rivers, mountains, coasts) and link these to Viking exploration and Saxon place names.

RE:

In RE, we will be continuing to focus on Islam and exploring different aspects of the religion.

Spanish:

In Spanish this half term, we will be discussing Spanish celebrations. We will be finding out about some key festivals and celebrations in Spain, then we will develop our knowledge of festival-related vocabulary. We will learn how to express likes and dislikes when describing activities related to different celebrations.

Our Creative Arts learning this half term:

Art and DT:

We will be focusing on using clay to create plinths to accompany our wire figures to explore the art of display. We Will be developing the following skills:

- Select suitable tools and equipment, explaining the choices in relation to the required technique.
 - Select appropriate materials, fit for purpose and can explain the choices made.
 - Mark out, cut and shape components with some accuracy.
 - Use tools precisely and accurately.
 - Use criteria to evaluate the product.
 - Begin to explain how the original design could be improved.
 - Consider whether products can be reused or recycled.
- Continue working on product even if the original didn't work.

Music:

- Practising performing skills in an ensemble using tuned and non-tuned instruments.
- Create lyrical melody that can sing along to the music.
- Learn to play several parts to the piece of music.
- Attempt to conduct by memorising sections.
- Introduce singing where appropriate.

Our PE and PSHE learning this half term:

PE: Our PE units this half term are Gymnastics and Tag Rugby. Some classes may be taking part in their swimming lessons this half term.

Gymnastics

Develop an understanding of asymmetrical and Symmetrical shapes.
Link actions to make sequences of movement with travel movements, shapes, jumps.
Understand how to improve and evaluate their own success.

Tag Rugby

Experience small sided games of Tag Rugby. Develop passing backwards, key principles of the game and defending.

PSHE:

Our unit this half term is 'Relationships and Sex Education'. We will:

Identify the main stages of the human lifecycle and identify the stage of an individual with reasonable accuracy

Explain ideas about being grown up and show they have a relatively realistic view of adulthood

Identify an area for which they can take more responsibility

Explain some ways that parents/carers are responsible for babies and understand that these responsibilities are based on the fact that a baby cannot look after itself.

Key Vocabulary

Key Vocabulary for this half term:

Maths:

Fractions: Fraction, equivalent fraction, mixed number, numerator, denominator, equal part, equal grouping, equal sharing, parts of a whole, half, two halves, one of two equal parts, quarter, two quarters, three quarters, one of four equal parts, one third, two thirds, one of three equal parts, sixths, sevenths, eighths, tenths, hundredths, decimal, decimal fraction, decimal point, decimal place, decimal equivalent, proportion

Decimals: Decimal point, tenths, hundredths, thousandth, equivalent, place value, Bar model, Place value chart, dividing, proportion, value, segment, penny, pound, amount, fraction.

English:

News Reports: Report, Recount, News report, Newspaper, Headline, Bias, Hero/villain, Eye-witness, Reporter, Quotation, Time connective / adverbial, Connective phrase, Pronoun, Embedded clause, Relative pronoun

Narrative: Connective phrases, contractions, sentence openings, apostrophes, clauses, conjunctions, determiners, adjectives, nouns, adverbs, inverted commas.

Science: Predators, producers, prey, consumer, food chain, key, apex, herbivore, carnivore, omnivore, food groups, classification, vertebrate, invertebrate, mammal, amphibian, fish, bird, reptile, insect, plant

Geography: Ordnance Survey, maps, keys, contours, hills, mountains, coasts, rivers, land-use, patterns, human features, physical features, compass, grid reference.