


This half-term we are learning...


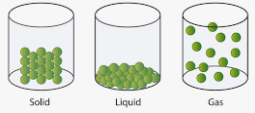
Curriculum Area	Areas to be taught in school	Possible activities to be done at home
English	During our English lessons this half term, we will be basing our reading & writing on texts linked with the topic of Ancient Egypt, beginning with a book we are sure the children will enjoy called 'There's a Pharaoh in my Bath' written by Jeremy Strong. We will also be using a digital literacy story about Tadeo Jones, an Egyptian explorer. These fabulous texts will inspire the children's story writing & also be a great stimulus for a factual report on the pyramids of Egypt.	Children are given time to read in school & are expected to also read at home. Exposure to a range of texts including magazines, comics, non-fiction texts, poetry etc. will help to develop their fluency & understanding. Please support your child at home by reading together as often as you can to promote a love of reading & learning.
Maths	In maths, the children will be taking part in weekly times tables practice tests. In lessons, we will initially be focussing on place value; including negative numbers, addition & subtraction of 4-digit numbers & using the inverse to check our answers. This will be followed by shape work, based on quadrilaterals & triangles & then converting time between analogue & digital 12- & 24-hour clocks.	By the end of Year 4, children are expected to know all of the times tables & related division facts. There are lots of ways to practise, such as online games, songs, writing them down & verbally rehearsing them. Encourage your child to use Times Tables Rockstars frequently to help improve their recall of times tables facts.
Science - Physics	In science, our first topic of the year is sound. We will learn about the way sound travels, how it is made, the effect volume has on the vibration & what 'pitch' is & how & why it changes. We will be taking our learning outdoors, carrying out a string telephone experiment to find out which material makes sound travel better, as well as investigating vibration, pitch & volume with a range of musical instruments.	Discuss sounds in different environments, when out & about. Can you detect sounds which are at different pitches? The children might also like to create their own string telephone using different materials at home.
History	Our study of Ancient Egypt will develop the children's knowledge of the achievements of this ancient civilisation. They will learn about how & where the Ancient Egyptians lived, what was important to the daily lives of Ancient Egyptians, who Tutankhamun was & how mummies were made. The children will also learn about how Egyptian people used hieroglyphs to communicate & compare the powers of different gods.	Encourage your child to discuss their learning about the Ancient Egyptian period of history so the whole family can become experts in this ancient civilisation. If you have access to the internet, find out about Howard Carter's discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun & the riches & knowledge that were uncovered.

Year Group: 4	Class Teachers: Mr Smith & Mr McGolpin	Term: Autumn 1, 2021
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Computing	The children will learn what debugging is & use what they learn to debug paper algorithms. Over the weeks, they will use & investigate the different features of 'Sprite', including effects & scoring systems, which they will then use to make a quiz of their own on the topic of Ancient Egypt.	Look at different types of quizzes. Are there any effects & colours that look good, which the children may want to use in the classroom when they create their own quiz using their newly-acquired computing skills?
RE	We will learn about the lives of people of faith from different religions. We will identify key events in their lives, how their faith & beliefs have influenced them to care for others, & how it has inspired their lives & work. They will compare & contrast these stories before examining the role of beliefs &/or faith in their own lives.	You could discuss what other religions may do to show care for others. Does anybody at home have any involvement in, or support a charity? Discuss strategies that may be of help to them when faced with their own challenges.
PE	The children will learn how to play football. They will learn how to kick a ball effectively, collaborate in team games & learn the basic rules.	Discuss what part of the foot you should kick a ball with. Watch a football game & discuss the different tactics used.
Music	We will learn how music has brought society together throughout the ages. The children will be looking at different genres of music & learning how to listen & compose. By the end of the term, they will have learned a new song & how to play the glockenspiel.	Listen to a range of songs & discuss how these might have been composed. What instruments can you hear? Can you tap the beat? Where would they be played?
Art	 The whole school are taking part in an art project based on a book called 'Rules of Summer,' by Shaun Tan. Our focus in Year 4 will be to produce a piece of artwork around the theme of birds of prey. The children will use different shading techniques in order to produce their piece of art.	Practise your sketching skills at home; perhaps try a portrait of a family member. Encourage your child to look really closely at an image they can sketch, discussing perspective, lines & patterns.
French	The children will be learning to pronounce the French alphabet & be able to spell basic words using this.	Rehearse the alphabet & see if you can label everyday objects at home with the correct letters.
PSHE	We will learn that there are a wide range of factors involved in maintaining a balanced, healthy lifestyle, physically & mentally. The children will learn what good physical health means & how to recognise early signs of physical illness	Plan & prepare a healthy meal at home.

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<p>English</p> 	<p>During our English lessons this half term, we will be reading, 'How to Train your Dragon'. We will write an information text all about a dragon, as well as a persuasive argument. We will also read, 'The Tunnel,' before writing a newspaper report about the events in this book. We will be learning about a range of punctuation, spelling & grammar techniques to apply in our writing. We will also read a range of texts (including non-fiction & poetry) to develop our skills of retrieving information & inferring what characters are thinking & feeling.</p>	<p>We would like children to read at home & get their reading record signed at least 3 times each week. Reading a range of texts, including magazines, comics, non-fiction texts & poetry will help to develop their fluency & understanding. You could watch the film version of, 'How to Train Your Dragon' & ask your child how it is similar & different to the book.</p>
<p>Maths</p>	<p>In maths, the children will be developing their skills of mental multiplication & division, including multiplication table facts up to 12x12. They will recognise & use factor pairs & multiply 2-/3-digit numbers by a 1-digit number using a formal layout. They will measure & calculate the perimeter of regular & irregular rectilinear shapes. They will learn to 'tell the story' of bar charts & time graphs.</p>	<p>By the end of Year 4, children are expected to know all of the times tables & related division facts, up to 12x12. Ways to practise: online games, songs, writing them down, oral rehearsal. Encouraging your child to use Times Tables Rockstars frequently will also help to improve their recall of times tables facts.</p>
<p>Science – Chemistry</p> 	<p>Through the topic, 'States of Matter', we will learn about the differences between solids, liquids & gases. We will classify a range of items & identify their properties. We will then explore how water changes state. Through an investigation, to find the ideal conditions for drying washing, we will learn about evaporation & the water cycle.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to talk about their learning & see if they can identify examples of different solids, liquids & gases. Perhaps they could explore whether the ingredients you use in cooking are solids or liquids or discuss what is happening to the water in the kettle when steam can be seen coming from it.</p>
<p>Geography</p>	<p>We will explore a range of questions about water: What does water look like? What is the water cycle? How are rain clouds made? How do we clean water? Why does the land flood? What are the effects of water pollution?</p>	<p>Have some fun & do an experiment of your own! You could put out some containers & measure how much rainfall we get in a week or month!</p>
<p>Computing</p>	<p>This half-term in computing, we are looking at Internet safety: What is a virus? How can we report things that don't look right? Who & what can we trust?</p>	<p>Continue to oversee your child online & show them how to report things that are bad or inappropriate. Login to Purple Mash to complete some 2Dos. If you don't know your child's login, please ask the class teacher.</p>

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Class Teachers: Mr Smith & Mr McGolpin

Term: Autumn 2, 2021

This half-term, we are learning...

RE	In Religious Education, we are looking in depth at Christianity: What do Christians believe? What are some of the Christian 'rules'? What are some key symbols? Who was Jesus & why is he important to Christians?	Try & visit a church in the local area so that your child can get a first-hand experience of what it is like inside & out!
PE	In gymnastics, the children will learn to make different balances, then use linking actions to combine them & create a fluid routine.	Make sure your child arrives at school in their PE kit on Tuesdays, so that they can fully participate in all PE activities.
Music	We will learn about how elements are combined to make music through the question: How does music connect us with the past? We will listen to &/or learn pieces in a variety of styles: pop, folk & jazz.	Listen to a range of music, pick out & clap to beats, listen & make lists of instruments you can hear & decide what genre the music belongs to.
Art	We will look at & discuss the similarities & differences between some of Paul Gauguin's key works of art. The children will be taught different techniques for using oil pastels & use them to create a still life, in the style of Gauguin.	Practise drawing in the style of Paul Gauguin. Don't have any oil pastels? Don't worry – use something else (e.g. pens, pencils, crayons) & see how it looks!
French 	We will continue to teach the children to count in French, from 0-40 (speaking, reading & writing). They will re-cap the vocabulary for the months of the years. Then they will learn to ask & answer questions like: When is it your birthday? What is the date today?	Practise your French vocabulary by counting up & – as a challenge – see if you can count down!
PSHE	The children will explore friendship: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does people's behaviour (including online behaviour) affect me & others? • Things can go wrong in relationships & how to manage problems between friends. • How to recognise when someone feels lonely or excluded & strategies for helping. • To recognise features of healthy relationships, such as mutual respect & trust. • To understand when a friend might make them feel under pressure or at risk. 	Create a poster advising other children about what they could do if they are feeling lonely or excluded.

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