



RED HOUSE  
SCHOOL

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Dear Parents

### **Year 4 Subject Summaries: Spring 2020**

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year and welcome you back to another busy and exciting school term. It is wonderful to see how well the children are settling back into the school routines after the Christmas break and I thought you would like to know what your child will be studying this term.

#### **English**

During the first half term, the children will study *The Spiderwick Chronicles* by Tony DiTerlizzi and Holly Black. In this unit, the children will explore fantasy fiction and practise their comprehension skills by asking questions and developing their understanding of inference. They will learn how to create suspense, as well as their editing and proof-reading skills, as they write a new episode for the story. Their grammar sessions will focus on punctuating speech, fronted adverbials, apostrophes for possession and plural and possessive '-s'. After half term, they will explore the question 'What is the world's most extreme weather?', where they will plan and write their own newspaper report and distinguish between fact and fiction.

#### **Maths**

Pupils will continue to consolidate their understanding of number and place value, including rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000, as well as decimal numbers. Mental addition and subtraction methods will be on-going, as will formal written methods. They will recall multiplication table facts up to 12 x 12 and learn strategies to multiply and divide a 3-digit number. Division answers will include those with remainders. They will find equivalent fractions, simplify fractions and order and compare decimal numbers. Pupils will sort 2D shapes according to their properties, recognise and draw angles, identify parallel and perpendicular lines, and investigate lines of symmetry. They will also solve money problems to two decimal places and use a number line to find change.

#### **Science**

In science, the children will cover Human Nutrition. During their Human Nutrition topic, they will describe the parts and simple functions of the digestive system, including identifying different types of teeth and describing their simple functions. The pupils will also be comparing the teeth of animals and discussing how nutrition impacts on healthy teeth and gums.

#### **Art**

Our artwork will be linked with our Weather and study of Mexico geography topics. Pupils will use a variety of media and techniques, such as cotton wool, pencils, pastels and printing techniques, to create a range of images including traditional Aztec artwork.

#### **French**

This term in Year 4, the pupils will continue to develop their pronunciation skills. In conjunction with the Linguascope, they will focus on body parts and movement. The pupils will also develop an understanding of classroom objects and recognise masculine and feminine words.

### **Physical Education - Boys**

Football will be the team games focus in this term, the emphasis will be on improving basic skills, spatial awareness and increasing the understanding of match play. In swimming, pupils will develop their technique in all 3 basic strokes and their individual performances will be recorded and monitored. There will also be some preparation work for the swimming gala which takes place this term.

### **Physical Education - Girls**

During this term, a range of sporting activities will be covered. In the major team games such as netball and hockey, the emphasis will be on improving basic skills and increasing the understanding of match play. In swimming, pupils will develop their technique in all 3 basic strokes and their individual performances will be recorded and monitored. There will also be some preparation work for the swimming gala which takes place this term.

### **Geography**

Pupils will learn about human and physical geography through their study of Mexico. They will explore the Aztec's and make comparisons between a historical settlement and modern-day Mexico City. This study will also include revising and reinforcing map work and knowledge of the world. Later in the term, the children will be exploring extreme weather around the globe.

### **Computing**

Pupils will revisit e-safety this term, recapping how to stay safe online and the dangers of sharing information. They will then plan, produce and edit their own information page relating to our whole school English Heritage project. They will also use ICT for data handling, supporting their work on weather and temperatures in contrasting locations.

### **Music**

Pupils will further develop their knowledge of musical notation and note values. Through listening topics and activities, they will learn about higher pitched instruments from each orchestral family. Basic skills on musical keyboards will be reinforced and extended while classroom singing will explore unison songs, including some with simple harmonies.

### **PSHE**

This term, the pupils will consider the importance of keeping themselves healthy and safe including risk taking behaviour, medicines and drugs (such as alcohol, tobacco and caffeine). They will also learn how to recognise and challenge stereotypes. Throughout the term, they will continue to have opportunities to practise mindfulness techniques.

### **RS**

This term the children will start with a deeper study Christianity, its traditions, festivals and the importance of Jesus in Christian life. After half term the children will be learning about different religious food rules and customs as they study 'Food and Fasting'.

I do hope you find this information useful so that you can support your child in their learning. If you have any questions or queries, please get in touch:  
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Yours sincerely



**Miss C Thompson**  
**Head of Prep**