



RED HOUSE
SCHOOL

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Dear Parents

Year 4 Subject Summaries: Spring 2022

We are delighted to welcome the children back to what promises to be a very busy and exciting Spring Term! Below, I have outlined an overview of the topics that your children 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 and order and compare decimal numbers. Moving on to solving real life problems involving fractions and 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, using mental arithmetic and written methods to calculate 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

This term the 'Bodies' themed unit will teach children about how to skilfully use pen, charcoal, felt tip, make maquettes, create paper clothes and sculpt Giacometti-inspired models to create quality artwork that develops progression in skills. The children will also have the opportunity to explore the work of 'Bodies' artists Julian Opie, Alberto Giacometti and Henry Moore.

French

This term, the pupils will be introduced to simple grammatical structures and key language through a variety of topics, such as clothes, colours and animals. Interactive activities will be used to support their learning and reinforce their understanding. The pupils will also explore intercultural celebrations, such as birthdays, Valentine's Day and Easter.

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 towards the end of term.

Boys: During this term, a range of sporting activities will be covered. In the major team games such as football and rugby, 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 towards the end of term.

Geography/History

This half term, the pupils will study The Shang Dynasty of Ancient China, where they will discover key information about the formation of the Shang Dynasty and the emperors who ruled it. They will learn about everyday life, the process of worship, the importance of warfare, advances in technology and the development of writing. In the second half of Spring Term, the children will explore Rainforests. The children will take a close look at the layers of the forest, its animal inhabitants, and the unique climate found in the tropics. They will compare a British forest with the Amazon rainforest, and begin to explore some of the conservation issues surrounding the destruction of rainforest habitats.

Computing

Pupils will revisit e-safety this term, linking this to Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 5 February. They will also use ICT for data handling, as well as supporting other areas of the Year 4 curriculum.

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. Pieces of music will be used to encourage an imaginative response through short stories, poems or art.

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:
vicky.smith@redhouseschool.co.uk

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V Smith', written in a cursive style.

Mrs V Smith
Assistant Head of the Junior School