

English

This half term, all of our Literacy learning will be based around the work of William Shakespeare. We have chosen to study the well-known comedy, The Tempest.

The Tempest is a story which includes a character named Prospero who, with the help of his magic powers, creates a storm to shipwreck a group of people on an island. As the characters navigate the island, they learn important lessons. The Tempest is a tale of forgiveness.

We will be beginning by immersing ourselves in the story and taking part in a variety of drama and role play activities. We will then be exploring different aspects of the story in more detail and be using our knowledge of these to write descriptions and letters.

We look forward to sharing our learning with you during our year group performance on the 6th March.

Science

During our Science sessions, we will be continuing our learning on sound. As part of this, we will be exploring how sounds are made and how these sounds travel. We will be investigating and finding patterns between the pitch of a sound and the object which produced it and the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it. We will also be exploring how sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases.

Geography

During our Geography sessions, we will be continuing with our in-depth study of the country of Japan. We will explore the physical and human geography of the country, after identifying key geographical knowledge such as its location, its neighbouring countries/oceans and its climate. We will research two cities within Japan and explore differences between these, before finding out how Japan is moving towards the future. We have been blown away by the children's enthusiasm into this topic so far.

Year 4 Spring Two

Poverty

Citizenship

Our global citizenship curriculum focus for this term will be "Poverty". We will be exploring the questions, '*What does poverty mean?*' and '*Why has poverty not been eradicated?*'

We will be looking in-depth at the role of the United Nations and the promises made through the '17 Sustainable Goals.'

Through our discussions and exploration of poverty, we will identify what it means to live in poverty, what causes or contributes to poverty in different countries and the support available to people living in poverty.

Our Art and DT projects for this term are linked to our Citizenship focus of poverty. Our DT will focus on creating £1 meals to support those living in poverty and our Art will be based upon children who live in poverty who have created some extraordinary toys for themselves and others.

MATHS

During this half term, we will be focusing on division and fractions. We will be exploring a variety of different methods and using different manipulatives to support us when solving problems.

We will be continuing to develop our known number facts by using derivation boards for different calculations. If you would like some of these for home to practise, please just ask!

Times tables are a crucial part of the Year 4 curriculum and we are now on the run up to the Y4 multiplication check. To support children with this, we highly recommend the 'Soundcheck' feature on SumDog as we will be setting these weekly for children to complete. Another great website is: <https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/> which is set out in a very similar format to the check itself.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Just a reminder that children are now responsible for changing their own reading books as and when needed.
- Please continue to practise spellings with your child/ren. Children will bring home their new spellings on a Monday and will need to return their yellow book to school on a Friday ready for the dictation.
- Please ensure your child brings a filled water bottle to school. Please also note that bottles should only be filled with plain water. Juice or flavoured water should not be brought to school.
- PE kits should be brought into school on a Monday and left until the end of the week. Children must also bring plasters to cover any stud earrings if they cannot be removed.
- Please ensure that children only wear one pair of studded earrings. No hoop or dangly earring should be worn in school.
- Please ensure school shoes are completely black. If trainers are worn, all part of the trainer should be black including sole and any logos.