



North Town Primary School

A guide to the curriculum for Parents and Carers of children in Year 4
Spring Term 2024



**Misty
Mountain,
Windy River**

In this Geography based project, children will learn about the characteristics and features of rivers and mountain ranges around the world, including a detailed exploration of the ecosystems and processes that shape them and the land around them.



English

In Writing this half term, our first focus will be writing a poem based on the poem 'The River'. This will consist of learning the features and format of a poem, as well as being able to experience what they will be writing about. Children will be learning their Year 4 grammar, which follows on from their Year 3 learning and knowledge. After working in pairs, groups and as a class, and reading a variety of pre-written, modelled and group-written poems, children will then use their newly learnt skills in their own independent poem.

Our second writing focus will be writing a narrative based on the story 'The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse'. We will learn about the features of a narrative and continue to practice and use our year 4 grammatical features before writing our own independent narrative.

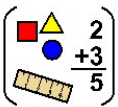




As always, capital letters, full stops and other basic writing skills will be focused on throughout the term.






Reading and Library



In Guided Reading lessons, we will be looking at texts with a wide variety of genres as a class. As well as discussing these texts, we will be thinking about our own opinion on the texts and having a deeper understanding of what we have read. We will then be working on our retrieval and deduction skills and our methods to identify information in a text, by answering questions in groups and then independently, based on our reading.

As well as having opportunities to read in class and visit our school library, we hope you will join us in helping further their love and passion towards for reading by ensuring they are reading regularly at home. Reading can be done independently or aloud, with questions being asked to check understanding, learn vocabulary, and expand comprehension skills.

We will be continuing to use our 'Accelerated Reader' scheme to support reading at home. Teachers will be checking the system daily to assess the amount of time children are spending reading, as well as the quality of what they are reading and then will have conversations based on this. Children need to ensure that they are reading their Accelerated Reader book regularly at home and completing a quiz on it when completed.

 <p>Mathematics</p>	<p>We are going to be continuing to follow White Rose Maths in our Maths lesson. In Spring 1, we will be focusing on multiplication and division, by 10 and 100 and also using written methods. We will then move on to Length and Perimeter.</p> <p>In Spring 2, we will learn about fractions, including equivalent, improper and mixed fractions. We will also be adding and subtracting different fractions. before moving on to decimals. In this topic we will go back to looking at place value and start to have an understanding of tenths and hundredths.</p> <p>Times Tables</p> <p>We will continue to have a big focus on times tables throughout the term. The children will complete Times Table Booklets usually twice a day, and we encourage you to help your children learn these crucial facts in order to benefit their overall maths skills. Suggestions for practice would be to use these booklets that have been sent home, general recall, chanting, and taking full advantage of our Times Table Rockstars school subscription. If you cannot find a login – please ask!</p>
 <p>Science</p>	<p>In Science lessons, we will be studying states of matter. We will be learning about solids, liquids and gases and their characteristic properties. The children will be observing how materials change state as they are heated or cooled, and they will learn the key terminology to explain these processes.</p> <p>In the second half term, we will be developing our knowledge on grouping and classifying. This will consist of learning about the animal and plant kingdoms as well as learning about the process of classification and creating our own classification keys.</p>
 <p>Art</p>	<p>In our art lessons, we will be learning about how to create an effective landscape, in our project 'Vista'. This will consist of learning about a variety of techniques that artists may use, such as colour and atmosphere. The children will then have the opportunity to create their own landscape.</p> <p>After half term, we will be focusing on the historical and cultural portrayal of animals in art. We will study the visual qualities of animals through sketching, printmaking, and clay modelling.</p>
 <p>DT</p>	<p>In Design and Technology, our topic will be 'Functional and Fancy Fabrics'. This will involve us studying home furnishings and learning about the work of significant designer William Morris. We will then learn techniques for decorating fabric, including block printing, hemming and embroidery. Finally, we will use this knowledge to design and make our own fabric sample and evaluate this.</p>
 <p>Computing</p>	<p>Throughout the Spring Term, the children will be following the 'Teach Computing' scheme. In Spring Term 1, children will be looking into Programming and repetition in shapes. They will learn how to create programs by planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns.</p> <p>In Autumn 2, children will be completing the 'Data Logging' unit. This will consist of the children considering how and why data is collected over time and how computers use sensors to monitor the environment. They will look at data points, data sets and logging intervals before reviewing and analysing the data.</p> <p>During our Online Safety lessons, we will start in Spring 1 by looking at our online reputation and how to find out information about others by searching online. We will learn about how information about anyone online can be created, copied, or shared by others. After half term, we will look into Online Bullying – learning different ways someone may be bullied online, how to recognize if someone is hurt online and how content they post online can affect others.</p> <p>As always, children will have access to iPads in a number of their other lessons, allowing them to independently develop their computing skills further across the curriculum.</p>

 <p>Spanish</p>	<p>Children will be taught Spanish weekly during the teachers' PPA time. Next term, we will be learning about habitat words. We will be able to say habitats for a range of wild animals. We will also read, and begin writing, phrases and sentences about these habitats. In the second half term, we will be recapping our food vocabulary, as well as beginning to answer a range of questions about food. We will also be able to suggest which foods make a healthy diet and which foods we should eat less of. We will also read, and begin writing, phrases and sentences about this.</p> <p>In our Spanish culture lessons, we will also learn about a Spanish-speaking country - Peru - and explore its' geography, religion, history and climate as well as discovering similarities and differences between England and Peru.</p>
 <p>Physical Education</p>	<p>Children will have the opportunity to participate in two hours of PE each week. One hour will take place during the teachers' PPA time, with the other hour being run by the class teacher.</p> <p>During the Spring term, the main focuses will be creativity through shapes that involve balance and stability and controlled dynamic balances using core strength. A social target will be to observe and give simple feedback to a partner of similar ability.</p> <p>Our Real PE lessons, with the class teacher, will continue to be based around coordination and a variation of balancing, including a dynamic balance, a static balance and a counterbalance. The main focus alongside these movement skills will be their cognitive and creative skills.</p> <p>During Spring 2, we will be starting swimming lessons at Taunton Pool on Friday afternoons.</p>
 <p>Music</p>	<p>In the Spring term, we will be focusing and learning a song called 'Stop!', which gives children a chance to improvise in music and create their own rap. We will also be learning the song 'Lean on Me' in Spring 2, which we will sing and play along with the glockenspiels. As always, singing will be part of our weekly assemblies.</p>
 <p>History</p>	<p>History will be a main focus again in the Summer Term.</p>
 <p>Geography</p>	<p>Geography will be our main topic this term, focusing on 'Misty Mountain, Winding River'. To start this project off, children will be visiting a river, as well as learning about different rivers around the world. We will be labelling parts of a river and researching the uses of rivers. The children will then move on to studying mountains, both in the UK and around the world, and finding out about the different types. Finally, we will be investigating the water cycle and our changing environment. We will be using all of this information to create our own information pack.</p>
 <p>PSHE&C</p>	<p>During the first half term, we will be following the Jigsaw Year 4 planning which focuses on "Dreams and Goals". The children will have a chance to think about their goals for the future and the steps they need to take to achieve these, as well as methods to overcome disappointment.</p> <p>After half term, our Jigsaw topic will be 'Healthy Me', which will consist of the children considering different people's feelings and how to form healthy friendships with others, as well as learning about the effects of smoking and alcohol.</p>

 <p>RE</p>	<p>The children will be taught R.E. weekly during the teachers' PPA time. Year 4 will be learning about what Christians believe about Salvation. This will have links with the Easter story.</p>
 <p>Homework</p>	<p>As compulsory homework, children are expected to read their Accelerated Reader book regularly (at least 5 times a week), practise their times tables and complete their spelling log to support them in these curriculum areas in school. On occasions, the children may receive additional homework to consolidate the work completed in lessons. Reading books should be in school everyday and spellings will be due in on Mondays. This term, there will also be challenges set on Times Tables Rockstars and these will be looked at regularly throughout the term.</p>
<p>Other information</p>	<p>Key dates: Tuesday 2nd January – INSET day Wednesday 3rd January – Back to school Wednesday 10th January – Year 4 French Weir trip Friday 19th January – Vocabulary Day Tuesday 30th January – Archie Project Dress up Day Year 4 Friday 2nd February – NSPCC Number Day Tuesday 6th February – Parents Evening – 3:30-6:15 Wednesday 7th February TBC – Y4 Sports Festival @ Blackbrook Wednesday 21st February – Parents Evening 3:30-6:15 Thursday 7th March – World Book Day 30th March – 14th April – Easter Holidays</p>

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please come in to see us.

Many thanks

Miss Causley and Miss Fowler