



**Rufford Primary school and Nursery
Curriculum Newsletter
Year 4 Autumn Term 1**

At Rufford, we RISE

For every child, without exception, to be proud of who they are, to leave our school well-prepared for the next stage of their education and to have the knowledge and skills needed to thrive in our modern world..

Resilience

Integrity

Self-awareness

Excellence

English

The children begin the year by engaging with non-fiction. They select applicants to be trained as astronauts for a mission to Mars. They read about Neil Armstrong in the interactive eBook, using the eBook's features to find out about Neil Armstrong's personal qualities. They focus on effective use of pronouns and fronted adverbials, and use these in their writing tasks: to write a diary entry and a biography.

The children will also study a fiction unit where they listen to Christophe's Story, responding to questions that stretch their comprehension and questioning skills. They use discussion, drama and role play to understand more about the characters. They look at the author's use of language: her choice of memorable words and phrases. Children draw on their understanding of conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause to tell their own oral recounts, and then turn these into written recounts. Children use a letter as a model to write their own, applying their ability to write multi-clause sentences.. In the main writing task, children write their own stories, drawing on their own personal experiences and a shared model text.

Mathematics

The first two units in the Power Maths scheme are Place Value. In these units, children will build on their previous learning in Year 3 about place value within 1,000 and will continue to use these previously learnt skills and apply them when working with 4-digit numbers. They will also move on to comparing 4-digit numbers and ordering numbers to 10,000. The third unit will focus on addition and subtraction providing essential preparation for beginning to add and subtract numbers with more than four digits.

In addition to Power Maths lessons, the children will have one Ready-to-Progress lesson a week which will focus on addressing specific misconceptions to build mathematical knowledge and they will have one fluency lesson a week which will be used to develop multiplication and division skills.

Science

The children will be studying living things and their habitats. In this unit they will recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways, explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment and recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.

History

The children will be studying Britain's settlement by Anglo-Saxons and Scots. In this unit they will learn about the struggle for the kingdom of England.

Geography

The children will be studying rivers. In this unit they will describe and understand key aspects of: physical and human geography including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle, types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water.

Art

The children will begin with a drawing unit on power prints. In this unit they will create several pencil tones when shading and create a simple 3D effect, use charcoal and rubber to show areas of light and dark in their drawings, demonstrate an awareness of the relative size of the objects they draw, show some awareness of how to create contrast by including areas with more and less marks, and create a drawing based on their original composition, including detail such as contrast and pattern.

PSHE

The children will continue to engage with the Jigsaw PSHE curriculum and their first unit is called Being me in my world. In this unit they will learn how their attitudes and actions make a difference to others, how they fit into their school community, what democracy in school means and how to make school a happy place, how to work well with others and what it means to empathise with others.

PE

In Year 4, the children will have a weekly swimming lesson. They will also be learning the key skills involved with hockey this term.

Computing

During this term, pupils will develop and practice their coding skills by learning how to create and debug specific online programmes.

DT

This term's DT lessons will focus on electrical systems, learning specifically about torches. The children will identify the difference between electrical and electronic products. Evaluate a range of existing torches and their features, then develop a new functional torch design.

RE

The children will be learning about Buddhism by specifically focusing on the life of Buddha. They will explore the beliefs of being and staying happy within this religion.

French

This term the children will be learning how to say when their birthday is, numbers up to 31 and the months of the year. They will also be revisiting how to say their name and age as well as how they are feeling.

Music

The children will focus on the structure in musical pieces, paying close attention to changes in pitch, tempo and dynamics.