



Holbrook C of E Primary School

Year 4 Curriculum – Autumn Term

Star Gazers

Our key texts are:



By Frank Cottrell Boyce

By H.G. Wells

Other texts:



By Margot Lee Shetterly

by Oliver Jeffers

Key writing objectives:

Fiction: Using Talk For Writing, this term we will look at a range of literary techniques that bring a story to life using **SPACE** as its theme.

CHARACTERISATION. Characterisation is the way an author or a playwright describes or shows what a character is like. The class will continue to develop their literacy skills with ways to help make the characters in a story seem believable or life-like to the reader or audience. The techniques we will use to influence characterisation writing will include dialogue and literary devices that are crafted to make the character appear a certain way.

We shall also think about the character's goal – how will they try to achieve theirs- and what 'struggles' will they meet on the way. This is the **DILEMMA** in a story.

Our non-fiction writing will focus on **Space** travel and inform the reader about items

Key reading objectives:

Using our super seven reading strategies, this term our Year 4 targets will be visualisation and questioning. We will 'Wonder and Question' what may happen next and ask questions of the author, ourselves and the text. To support our writing, we will see pictures in our minds as we create visual images.

Class 4 will also be reading *The Light of Stars* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. This beautiful poem will support our use of personification to bring objects to life and support our visualisation of the solar system.

Spelling patterns this term:

/aw/ spelt with augh and au

Adding the prefix in- im- il- ir-

Homophones & near homophones

/shun/ endings spelt with 'sion'

/shun/ sound, spelt with 'ssion' (if root word ends in 'ss' or 'mit')

/shuhn/ sound, spelt with 'tion'

'ough' words

/shuhn/ sound, spelt with 'cian'

Words with 'ough' to make a long /o/, /oo/ or /or/ sound

Statutory Spellings Challenge Words

Key Maths objectives:

Year 4 will begin the term with place value in mathematics: the children will develop their understanding of number value up to 10,000, rounding and working with negative numbers.

Through the term, they will then develop their 4 operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

Towards the end of the term, they will be using these skills and applying them into measurement. They will find the perimeter and the area of shapes (regular and compound)

Although we will be following the White Rose Scheme, Mathematics will also be linked to our class topic. The children will use outer space themed Maths in a variety of ways throughout the term.



Key Science objectives:

Space

The Autumn term will see Class 4 learning about SPACE. There will be a trip to the Space Centre to enrich their learning in an exciting and informative way.

Year 4 will explore the planets in our solar system, develop their understanding of orbits, the moon phases and the relationship between the sun, the moon and Earth. This learning will be supported by fair testing investigations.

Music:

Year 4 children will follow the music scheme, Charanga, and this term lessons will be based on the music of Mamma Mia.

Geography:

Making links with SPACE, this term, Year 4 will be learning about hemispheres, how and why the different parts of the world have day and night at different times, and which countries and continents are in the two hemispheres.

This will secure their understanding of climate zones, the equator, tropics and arctic regions. They will make observations using images taken from space.

Computing:

Our focus this term is coding - Class 4 will continue with their learning using a space theme. To reinforce safe practice using computers, they will also follow the online safety program

Art/ DT:

Class 4 will have the opportunity to paint in the style of Vincent Van Gogh. They will practise the important skills of colour, shade, blending and light to create their own night sky masterpiece.

Our DT focus is rockets - the children will design and create their own rockets. They will then evaluate how successful their design was by how far their rocket travelled. Children will be able to apply their skills at the Space Centre! Excited about this visit!!

PE:

Mr Adams will continue to inspire and motivate PE on Tuesdays and Fridays. His focus this term will be on tag rugby (I played rugby at University - what a great game!) and gymnastics. Children will develop their application skills and develop strategies to make improvements.

PSHE:

This term, Year 4 will be discussing and giving examples of different types of families and what makes a family important to them. They will learn how to share any concerns they have and how people in families care for each other.



History:

Although our topic this term has a geographical focus, in October, as part of Black history Month, we will be reading *Hidden Figures*. Class 4 will discuss the importance of people having their achievements recognised, no matter their race, colour, gender or religion and the impact these three black women had on NASA, the space program and influencing future generations of women, both white and black.

For any parents interested, there is an excellent film based on their lives called *Hidden Figures*.

RE:

Our focus this term is exploring the question 'Why do people pray? Children will consider why they pray and the different ways people pray in the world. They will also consider the question 'What would Jesus do?' and can we live by the values of Jesus today?

Homework expectations:

Children can help develop their timetables fluency with plenty of practice at home. This could be using TTRS and Hit the Button, but there could be more practical ways too. When driving (number of wheels on different number of cars) or baking are great opportunities for fun practical maths. Homework sent out is to support further understanding/ practice of an area taught in class. If a child finds it tricky, please tell them to see me and I'll talk them through it. Work will be sent home on a Friday (stuck into homework books and the previous week's homework will be reviewed at this point) to be handed in the next Friday: a short Maths task, English task and X table revision. The children are also encouraged to read 4 x per week and discuss what they have read with an adult. This is so important for comprehension. Children will have a list of 10 spelling words to learn each week for a test each Friday.

Ideas to support at home:

You can support your child at home not just with their homework tasks.

Thinking about our science topic SPACE, children could investigate the activities on the NASA site

<https://www.nasa.gov/content/hubble-inspires-online-activities>

Although we don't have a specific History focus, the children could explore the history of space travel. I would love to hear about their discoveries or star gazing discoveries.