

## Science

This term we will base our science around the question 'How would we survive without water?'

### The children will:

- Identify the three states of matter (Solid, Liquid, Gas) and consider how objects can change their state of matter.
- Learn to create comparative and fair tests.
- Set up simple practical enquiries.
- Make systematic and careful observations and, where appropriate, taking accurate measurements using appropriate equipment.
- Learn the watercycle.

# 'Raging Rivers'

Year 4

Spring Term 1 & 2

2017



## Maths

This term we will be revisiting number and studying fractions, multiplication, division, statistics and position & direction

### The children will:

- Calculation – focusing on multiplication and division.
- Fractions
- Measures to include time, length, mass and capacity.

## Geography

**We will be studying the key aspects of physical and human geography including Rivers and the water cycle. The second part of the term the children will compare Cheltenham to our twinned town Annecy.**

### The children will:

- Name, locate and identify characteristics of the human and physical geographic features of a river.
- Be introduced to the water cycle
- Make a cross-section of a river in a shoe-box to show how erosion and deposition occur and show some of the effects of pollution in rivers
- Make observations about two towns in terms of their climate and human and physical geographic features.
- Identify links between tourist areas and tourism as an aspect of human geography.
- Be able to identify Europe on a map and locate countries within it.
- Use a full range of skills and different kinds of maps and resources to undertake an independent investigation.
- Consider their cultural identity.

## Art

**The children will be creating landscapes using watercolours**

### The children will:

- Explore and evaluate a range of landscapes created by modern and traditional artists.
- explore the medium of watercolour as a basis for landscape painting
- create their own landscape paintings in watercolour
- Transform these landscapes into a textured weave.

## PE/Games

The children will be developing and refining their skills in Gymnastics, hockey and tennis.

## PSHE

We will be thinking this term about the theme 'All about me'.

## RE

Christianity

## English

Elements of talk for writing combined with specific punctuation and grammar targets will support the children to;

- Write a short story based on **The Adventure at Sandy Cove**. With a focus on character and punctuation.
- Write non-chronological reports around the topic **Pollution in the River Chelt and the water cycle**.
- Write an alien invasion at Woodmancote 'Doctor Who' style story.
- The Year 4 play will enable children to practise their speaking and listening skills after the fantastic performance poetry we saw.

## Computing

**This term we will be looking at Programming and using 'Scratch'.**

The children will design, write and debug programs that accomplish specific goals, including controlling or simulating physical systems; solve problems by decomposing them into smaller parts

\* Use sequence, selection, and repetition in programs; work with variables and various forms of input and output

\* Use logical reasoning to explain how some simple algorithms work and to detect and correct errors in algorithms and programs.

## Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter – Spring Terms 1 and 2 - 2017

### 'Raging Rivers'

Welcome back- we are not predicting a wet spring however much of our work this term will link with our topic about Rivers and all things water related! In line with the current curriculum where appropriate teaching will be more discreet to provide the best learning experience for the children.

The year 4 team we would really love parents to continue supporting us and their children in our **times tables multiplication mission!** (We do appreciate the hard work so far!). There are some brilliant free resources online available to support this (see websites section below), as well as the good old traditional chanting, singing or repetition methods! The expectation is they are practiced 3 times per week.

In line with whole school policy our expectations for children's home learning are set out below.

Finally, please let us know if you are able and would like to help on any trips we undertake, or with reading, art, cooking activities...!

And any questions please ask.

#### HOW CAN I HELP AT HOME?

##### **Reading:**

Please encourage your child to read regularly, daily if possible. This should be a balance of reading aloud to an adult or older child and independently. We ask that you sign and/or comment in their reading record **at least once week** to support this- it does make a huge difference. Talking about the story, predicting what might come next and understanding the vocabulary in context is a very important part of the reading process, and this is where additional 1:1 support really helps. Any parent volunteers to listen to readers would be very welcome! Books will be changed as soon as they are read and checked off by an adult so **reading book and record should be in school every day.**

##### **Spelling:**

Spelling lists and rules will be given for the term and posted on class dojo. The rule is taught and investigated at school on Monday and Tuesday but further engagement with the rule at home is expected to help embed it. The rule is tested the following **Monday**. Investigating rules from their reading books and from dictionaries helps to give the words a real life context so they can apply them to their written work.

##### **English Homework:**

Weekly Spelling Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG) task on a **Thursday** to be returned **Tuesday**. Occasionally this may be a task to support the English unit.

##### **Maths Homework:**

Weekly Manga High set weekly on a **Thursday** to consolidate the work that has been done during the week or as an additional challenge to be completed by the following **Tuesday**.

#### **PE Kit**

This should be in school **EVERY** day (if necessary washed across a weekend). It must consist of clothes and trainers suitable for indoor and outdoor lessons (we will aim to be outside come rain or shine). If your child has earrings please ensure suitable tape is in school at all times or they will need to be removed for the lesson.

#### Useful websites

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zqdwxb/resources/1>

<http://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/rivers>

<http://primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/rivers.html>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables> - and many more just google!

Percy parker times tables clips on youtube.

#### Books:

Looking at an atlas with your child will really support this topic.