

Literacy:



In Literacy for Spring 1 we are immersing ourselves in all things Australia. The first unit in Spring 1 is a non-fiction unit. We will be writing non-chronological reports about Australia and their culture.

We will also be writing our own version of Dreamtime stories using 'Dust Echoes' website to help immerse ourselves in the cultural aspect of Australia. This will allow the children to use their imaginations and write stories based on other cultures.

In Spring 2 we will be using *Firework Makers Daughter* by Philip Pullman as a stimulus for our writing. This text will allow the children the opportunity to write descriptive story in a similar style. As we are visiting Calshot this half term a lot of our writing will come from this experience, we will be writing a recount of our trip and a persuasive letter to Mrs Moakes asking if the trip can continue for next year.

Shared Reading - During shared reading the children will get to read a variety of different stories, we will be focusing on traditional Australian stories as well as focusing on *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* in Spring 2. The children will be practicing various skills, particularly looking at inference and understanding why the author may have done certain things.

Music:



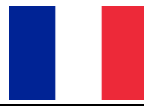
Year 4 are lucky enough to have Mrs Thomas from the Hampshire Music Service come in and teach us. This term we will be looking at dynamics and tempo through African Drumming. There will be a concert at the end of the term to showcase the children's skills and learning.

Y4 Spring 2018 Explorers, Australia & Shang Dynasty

Residential

In Spring 2 the children will be visiting Calshot activities centre. This residential will teach the children valuable social skills, particularly team work and communication. It will also be a challenge to try new things and push themselves further than they thought they could!

French



In French this half term the children will continue to practice their fluency in speaking French. They will learn about body parts, days and months.

Numeracy:



This half term in maths the children will be developing their understanding of

- Formal methods for addition and subtraction.
- Developing methods for multiplication and division.
- Measuring - using length, mass and capacity.
- Addition using money
- Problem solving and reasoning

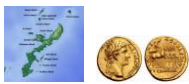
Science:



The Digestive System - In Spring 1 we will be exploring the wonderfully gory world of the digestive system. The children will get the opportunity to explore the digestive system through a range of visual means and experiments of their own. The children will also be engaging in a range of lessons around how teeth work and experimenting ways in which to look after them.

Sound - As Scientists in Spring 2 the children will engage in a variety of activities and experiments about sound. Exploring how vibrations work and the different parts of the ear.

Geography & History



Over this term we have 3 topics to cover:

Explorers – As historians the children will discover who Christopher Columbus was and why he became an important part of history – this will also become the stimulus into map reading skills. The children will learn about 4 figure grid reference, longitude and latitude and 8 points on a compass.

Australia/Aborigines – This unit takes place throughout various different subjects, particularly English. The children will discover what life is like in modern day Australia, as well as learning about the Aboriginal culture through PE, Art and Literacy.

Shang Dynasty – As historians in Spring 2 the children will be learning about the Shang Dynasty of Ancient China. They will learn about the Shang Family and how they ruled over China in approximately 1600BC to 1046BC. The children will also learn what it was like for civilians of China during this time.

PE

During PE this term the children will be learning Aboriginal dance, they will immerse themselves in the culture and learn to tell stories through movement.

In Spring 2 the children will be working on Gym Balances and how to create a succession of movements using different equipment.

****PE is planned to take place on Mondays and Wednesdays. Please ensure a PE kit remains in school and that ear-rings are removed on these days.**

ART/DT



As artists this term, the children will be looking at how Aboriginal people tell stories through symbols and images. The children will have a go at creating a piece of aboriginal artwork as well as creating their own version of a Didgeridoo, which will also tell a story through symbolism and colour.

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Ways to help at home:

Reading regularly is an essential part of your child's education and we expect all children to be reading regularly at home (from any text: fiction or non-fiction).

Year 4 will have regular homework which will involve reading, spellings and maths homework. The maths will be times tables practice more often than not.

The homework will be set on Thursdays with the return day being Monday.

You will also be provided with KIRFS for Spring Year 4 – Key Instant Recall Facts – it would be helpful if you could practice these with your child.

ICT:



In Spring 1 the children will be looking at making and breaking algorithms in order to help them with coding. The children will have various opportunities to create exciting games or animations through coding.

In Spring 2 the children will be looking at E-Safety. There will be a particular focus on ensuring that personal data is not shared online.

RE /PSHE:



Passover/ Freedom – The children will explore the idea of freedom. They will also learn about Passover, and its importance in Judaism. The children will be given opportunities to communicate their ideas through role play, writing and discussion.

Paschal candle/ Ritual – In RE the children will be exploring the Paschal Candle ritual and its importance to Christian religion. The children will explore the difference between a ritual and a routine in order to further understand why this service is important to Christians.