

# YEAR 4 Curriculum Blog

## Spring 1 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all!

This blog provides an overview of the curriculum your child will be engaging in during the half term. We hope you will find this information useful in keeping you informed and supporting your child's learning journey.

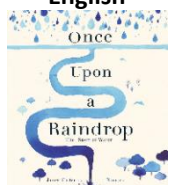
Our topic this half term is A Drop in the Ocean. We will be learning about rivers and the water cycle in Geography with links to our English work.

Please ensure your child continues to access TT Rockstars and Boom Reader at home. These skills are essential for their future learning. We will have another practice Times Table assessment this term and look forward to seeing how much the children have improved.

If at any time you have questions or concerns, please contact the class teacher on Dojo. We would also like to hear about the children's achievements outside of school (football, gymnastics, martial arts etc.) so we can celebrate their success.

Best wishes,  
Mrs Storey, Mrs Botha, Mr Pennington, Ms Knowles

### English



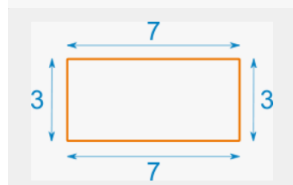
This half term in English, we will write a factual tour inspired by 'Once Upon a Raindrop, The Story of Water' by James Carter. This links to our Geography work about the water cycle. Following this, we will look at how the charity Water Aid funds projects to help people across the world access clean water, sanitation, and hygiene education.

We will also learn how to write a metaphor poem about a river based on the poem The River by Valerie Bloom. We will then research and write our own metaphor poems about the different types of weather using a range of vocabulary.

The children will be taught and given the opportunity to practise the statutory spelling and grammar for Year 4 as well as consolidating previous learning in Year 3.

**\*Spellings will be sent home and tested weekly**

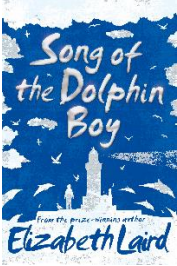






### Mathematics



This half term in Maths, we will continue working on multiplication and division. The children will be introduced to factors for the first time. They will learn that when they multiply two whole numbers to give a product, both the numbers that they multiplied together are factors of the product. For example,  $3 \times 5 = 15$ , so 3 and 5 are factors of 15. 3 and 5 are also referred to as a "factor pair" of 15. The children will also learn to multiply and divide by 10 and 100. The children will explore scaling facts by 10 and 100, for example using the fact that  $4 \times 7 = 28$  to derive  $4 \times 70 = 280$  and  $4 \times 700 = 2,800$ . They then look at this relationship with division, for example using  $12 \div 3 = 4$  to derive  $120 \div 3 = 40$  and  $1,200 \div 3 = 400$ . The children will use several informal written methods to support multiplication and division calculations.

The children will also be looking at length and perimeter. They will measure lengths using metres and centimetres. They will convert between metres and centimetres, and between centimetres and millimetres. The children will explore different methods for working out the perimeter of rectangles, such as adding double the length to double the width and doubling the sum of the length and the width.

Remember to practise your TT Rockstars at home.

<p><b>Reading</b></p> 	<p>This half term we will be reading <i>Song of the Dolphin Boy</i> by Elizabeth Laird. This story is an adventure about the impact of plastic pollution on our seas, and the power of friendship. Finn always felt that something was missing. One day he dives into the ocean and finds that, swimming with the dolphins, he feels completely at home. But his new friends are in danger of being injured by the rubbish that floats out into the water.</p> <p>During Reading lessons, the children will respond to the text using the VIPERS which is an acronym to aid the recall of the 6 reading domains as part of the UK's reading curriculum. <b>V</b>ocabulary, <b>I</b>nference, <b>P</b>rediction, <b>E</b>xplanation, <b>R</b>etrieval and <b>S</b>ummarise. The children will be encouraged to ask and answer a range of challenging questions and complete reading-based tasks to support their comprehension skill development. <b>Please read daily and log all reading on BOOM READER.</b></p>
<p><b>Science</b></p> 	<p>We will be out and about this half term on the school grounds, identifying a range of microhabitats within this local area and use pictures of other places to spot micro habitats within these wider areas. We will use Venn diagrams and Carroll diagrams to sort and categorise a range of organisms, including plants. Now we are in Year 4 we will be using more complex scientific classification keys to identify which groups given organisms belong to. As always, we will be considering how our new scientific knowledge impacts us as human beings and we will look in detail of how human actions alter our environment and endanger both the continued existence of other species and the continued wellbeing of our planet. We will conclude this half term, making plans for improvements that will have a positive impact on our natural world. The children will write letters to demonstrate their understanding of this half term's science and the impact of the themes on our lives.</p>
<p><b>Computing</b></p> 	<p>In this half-term, the children will be programming on an application called Logo. They will learn the commands to make their on-screen turtle move in different directions to make interesting patterns. They will learn the importance of ensuring that their code and algorithms are correct.</p>
<p><b>Geography</b></p> 	<p>The geography focus for this half term is 'Rivers'. The children will learn about the water cycle and will label the parts of this process. They will learn about the human use of rivers around the world, looking for similarities and differences. They will learn the different features of a river and how flooding affects the communities that live close to a river. Finally, the children will visit Grays Beach where they will make sketches and discuss how the river Thames is used.</p>
<p><b>Art</b></p> 	<p>The children will be exploring patterns. They will create sensory drawings and explore artists who are inspired by patterns. They will experiment with materials and colours to invent their own unique patterns. They will consider angles and mathematical terms such as "parallel". After that, they will become familiar with tessellations within art. They will invent their own shape that fits together repeatedly (tessellation). Finally, they will reflect on their work through peer discussion.</p>
<p><b>Music</b></p> 	<p>In Music we will be learning <i>Stop!</i> - a rap about bullying. The children will analyse the song and discuss the lyrics, rhythm, and rhyme. The children will then compose their own rap lyrics and put them together to form a larger song, with a chorus and verses.</p> <p>The children will also attend weekly singing assemblies with Mrs Barrett.</p>
<p><b>PSHE/RSE</b></p> 	<p>In this half term, the children will look at the meaning of and benefits of living in a community, as well as recognise that they belong to different communities as well as the school community. They will learn about the different groups that make up and contribute to a community and about the individuals and groups that help the local community, including through volunteering and work. Finally, they will think about how to show compassion towards others in need and the shared responsibilities of caring for them.</p>

RE



In RE, the children will be looking at Christianity, exploring different reasons why Jesus is considered an inspiring figure by Christians – and by many other people too. They will be identifying people who inspire them in their lives. Children will explore what they know about Jesus’ life story and explain how Jesus inspired others through His teachings. They will look at different parables that Jesus has told and explain the meaning of these.

French



In French this term we will work towards holding a simple conversation with a partner, asking the question as well as being able to answer them. Children will be able to present themselves in French saying what they are called, how old they are, where they live and their nationality. Remember to login to Language Angels, to play some games, sing some songs and practice your French. [www.languageangels.com](http://www.languageangels.com)  
Here is the French vocabulary that the children will use this term, [https://www.languageangels.com/schools/public/uploads/pupil\\_vocabulary/1682410275.pdf](https://www.languageangels.com/schools/public/uploads/pupil_vocabulary/1682410275.pdf)

PE



In PE the children will be taking part in hocky and dance.  
We ask all children to wear LTPS PE kit which is a plain white T shirt, navy shorts or tracksuit bottoms and black trainers. All jewellery should be removed, and hair must be tied back. NO football kits of any description please.

**Ideas to support your child’s learning at home linked to our areas of learning this term:**

- ✓ Read daily and log on Boom Reader.
- ✓ Join and visit the library (Nearest library is on Blackshots Lane).
- ✓ Complete TT Rockstars activities weekly
- ✓ Practise times tables using other games and songs such as:
- ✓ [Times Tables Games for 7 to 11 year olds \(topmarks.co.uk\)](http://www.topmarks.co.uk)
- ✓ [Times tables games and songs 1-12 - BBC Bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize)
- ✓ Complete weekly spelling homework
- ✓ Practise Spelling and grammar using these free online games.
- ✓ <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkbf4j/articles/zbm8scw>
- ✓ <https://ictgames.com/mobilePage/lcwc/index.html>
- ✓ <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

**Homework Project –** Children are asked to choose one of the projects below to complete.

Please complete and return Homework projects by **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February**. Homework projects will be celebrated and shared in class from **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February**.

This half term, we would like the children to create an Art piece based on our topic of water, rivers, and oceans. The children can use any type of art medium to create their piece. We encourage them to be as expressive as possible.

- Collage
- Sculpture
- Painting
- Pencil
- Chalk