



Barkisland CE (VA) Primary School
WE BELIEVE, WE NURTURE, WE SUCCEED!

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter

- This newsletter will give you an overview of the learning for your child this term.
- Mrs Bromley will teach Year 4 on a Friday and every other Wednesday afternoon and will cover Art, Computing, PSHE and Modern Foreign Languages.
- If you have any further questions or would like to discuss anything in more detail, please make an appointment to speak to one of us.

Thank you, Miss Reynolds.

Spring Term 2024

English

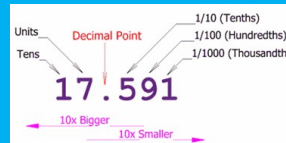
This year, we continue to follow the Grammarsaurus scheme in English. There is a copy of our grammar and writing overviews attached to this letter.

During the first half term, we will be writing an explanation text that links to our Science topic of 'Sound'. This text will discuss how our ears work. First, we will be looking at the structure and key grammatical features of an explanation text, before going on to write our own example.

After half term, we will move on to look at recount diary entries. At the end of this topic, the children will be writing a diary recount about surviving a natural disaster.



Mathematics



As a school, we will continue to follow the White Rose Maths scheme. The White Rose schemes of learning are designed to support a mastery approach to teaching and learning, as well as support the aims and objectives of the National Curriculum. The White Rose schemes have number at the heart and a lot of time is spent reinforcing number to build competency. It also provides opportunities to build reasoning and problem solving into each lesson.

The children will be able to build on their abilities by following a concrete-pictorial-abstract approach where necessary (CPA).

Concrete: Using concrete objects and manipulatives to help them understand and explain what they are doing.

Pictorial: Building upon the concrete approach by using pictorial representations, which can then be used to reason and solve problems.

Abstract: With the foundations firmly laid, children can move to an abstract approach using numbers and key concepts with confidence.

With this newsletter, there is a copy of our long-term plan and a breakdown of the learning we will be covering in the Spring Term.



Science

In the first Spring term, we will be learning about 'Sound'. This topic will explore how sounds are made, how our ears work, and how different pitches and volumes are created.

After half term, we will be learning about 'Animals and their Habitats'. This topic will explore how living things are grouped and classified, and will highlight how changes in our environment can threaten their lives.

Religious Education

In the first half of the Spring term, we will start our topic of 'How and why do believers show their commitments during the journey of life?'. This topic explores key aspects of life such as birth, marriage and death.

After half term, we will be learning about 'Salvation' and will be investigating the Christian beliefs surrounding Good Friday.



Computing

In the first half term, we will start our Coding topic. During this topic, the children will learn how to create and debug algorithms to create shapes on Turtle Academy.

After half term, we will start our Digital Literacy topic. This topic will allow the children to explore how to use animation software and create their own recordings of characters that move using different animations.



History / Geography

Over the course of the Spring term, our Geography unit will be 'My Region and Campania, Italy'. In this unit, the children will learn about the world and how it is represented on maps. The children will discover the different countries and capital cities of Europe as well as recapping the countries and cities in the UK. The unit will then focus specifically on Italy and explore the region of Campania and its tectonic plates, volcanoes and earthquakes.



Physical Education

Indoor PE is on a Monday afternoon. On Mondays, the children are to come to school in their PE kits. Please make sure your child is wearing the correct PE kit: PE is a statutory requirement. If your child is unable to do PE for any reason, please inform us. Jewellery must be removed for PE including earrings.

During the first half term, the children will be taking part in Dance lessons. These lessons allow the children to explore the way in which their bodies move whilst keeping in time with the music.

After half term, we will be moving onto Yoga. This topic will highlight the importance of stretches and balances and how these movements can strengthen our bodies.





Art / Design Technology

During the first half term, the children will be exploring different types of structures in DT. More specifically, they will be looking at pavilions and designing and building their own frame structures from cladding that are structurally strong and aesthetically pleasing.

After half term, the children will move on to the topic of 'Fabric in Nature' in Art. During this topic, the children will be creating detailed images, textures and patterns inspired by the rainforest.

Music

This year is an exciting year for Year 4. They will be building on their existing skills of being able to read music by learning to play a brass instrument.

This session will take place on a Monday afternoon and the children are provided with the opportunity to take their brass instruments home with them.



MFL

During the first half term, the children are going to be learning the names of animals in French. By the end of the half term, they should be able to say what animal is their favourite in French.

After half term, we will move on to look at French traditions and celebrations, such as their Carnival. The use of numbers will also be incorporated into this topic.



Homework

Every Wednesday, we will set English, Maths and talking homework to be completed by the following Monday. The English and talking homework will be uploaded onto Seesaw and the Maths homework will be set via MyMaths. If your child has forgotten their login details, please let us know either by emailing the office or asking your child to inform us.



Reading

Children are able to bring books in from home and borrow them from our class library. The books in our class libraries are rotated on a half-termly basis to keep the excitement and enthusiasm alive for children in relation to reading. It is of vital importance for children to read every day. Reading a wide range of different books stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world. Please encourage your children to read at home every day, even if it is just for 10 minutes.

In school, we will have dedicated independent reading times as well as a slot for Social Reading. Social Reading will be on a Wednesday and the children can bring in their own reading material to share with others. The reading material can take many forms e.g. fiction and non-fiction texts, magazines, annuals etc.



PSHE

During the first half term, we will start our new topic of 'Risks'. In this topic, we will be learning all about how to manage risks and stay safe in unfamiliar surroundings.

After half term, we will move on to focus on how to manage our feelings. In this topic we will focus on the importance of addressing our feelings and discuss ways to deal with our emotions and with conflicting ideas and opinions.



Swimming

Every Friday morning, the children will visit Sowerby Bridge swimming pool for swimming lessons. The children will be taught basic swimming strokes, and as part of the curriculum, the children will also be taught water safety.

Children will need a one-piece swimming costume or trunks (not baggy shorts) as well as a towel. Swimming hats and goggles are optional. It is advised that an extra plastic bag is sent in to put wet clothes into before putting them into their swimming bags. Earrings and jewellery should be taken out and left at home.

