

Year 4 Curriculum Overview for Parents Spring 2017/18



Subject	Spring 1	Spring 2
Literacy	The Tempest by William Shakespeare The children will be focusing on The Tempest by William Shakespeare. They will explore the different themes within the play looking at the language techniques that have been used. They will then write their own stories inspired by Shakespeare. Children will be planning, writing, rehearsing and performing play scripts. The play scripts will include a range of grammar skills the children will have learned, including fronted adverbials and punctuation. During Storytelling week, the children will present and perform their own version of The Tempest.	Why the Whales Came by Michael Morpurgo The children will be reading the book 'Why the Whales Came' by Michael Morpurgo. The children use the main themes within the text to write information texts about whales and the Scilly Isles. The children learn how to organise their ideas effectively, use of paragraphs and the layout of an information text. They will use persuasive language to write speeches convincing children about protecting the environment. The children will use a range of oracy and drama techniques to practise using the powerful language and present their speeches which they will critique.
Big Reading	Through daily Big Reading sessions the children will practise reading collaboratively. They will share a text and develop a variety of skills such as echo reading. This will help them to confidently read a range of texts fluently and accurately. The children will be able to answer a range of questions about the text, compare the text to different non-fiction texts and start to discuss the features of mixed genre texts.	Through daily Big Reading sessions the children will continue to refine their reading skills from the first half term. The children will practise quoting from the text to answer questions and working on 'Mini Missions' — small tasks to test their reading skills such as talking about the author's choice of language and inferring meaning from the text. They will look at the characters in the story and how they feel and how they could change the characters' actions or a sequence of events.
Maths	This term, the children will continue to use problem solving to explore different mathematical concepts using practical resources to support their learning. This half term we will focus on: • Multiplication - multiplying three numbers, 2 and 3-digit numbers and multiplying multiples of 100 • Division – Two and three digit numbers • Solving multiplication and division word problems	This term, the children will continue to use problem solving to explore different mathematical concepts using practical resources to support their learning. This half term we will focus on: Graphs - Interpreting picture, bar and line graphs and collate information using graphs and make predictions based on trends identified in data. Fractions – Mixed number and improper fractions, adding and subtracting fractions. Solving addition and subtraction word problems

Science	Famous Scientists: David Attenborough The children have the opportunity to learn about the world famous scientist and environmentalist Sir David Attenborough. We will look in depth at his biography, how he became involved in Science and the natural world with his vast work on all aspects of life on Earth. We will look at his conservation work and his efforts to save the environment. We will explore how his work has impacted our understanding of the natural world today.	For our STEM project, we will be investigating sound. By using various equipment, the children will investigate how different sounds are made. They will also learn about vibrations and how they are vital in order for sound to travel. The children will conduct various experiments: including testing volume, the strength of vibrations and how sounds can become quieter and louder.
History & Geography	History - The Tudors: Henry VIII and the Reformation The children will extend their work on the Tudors from Year 3 and look in more depth at the life of King Henry VIII. We will look at the changes he made to religion during the Tudor times and the impact it had on other Tudors. We look at the differences between the two churches and link this to how Catholicism and Protestantism is different today. The children will have the opportunity to visit both a local Catholic and Protestant church.	Geography - Islands Our islands topic links cross curricularly to our Literacy text – Why the Whales came. We research the setting for the book, the Isles of Scilly. We look at where they are located, the population and the inhabitants of the Isles. We investigate how islands are formed and make comparisons with other islands in the world. We also begin to look at a range of natural disasters and how many islands are formed from the occurance of natural disasters. The children have the opportunity to research and create their own information pages on natural disasters.
Art & DT	Our Art & DT is taught in a cross curricular way. This term the children will be using their learning from Science to design and make a simple but functional product that works.	All our Art & DT is taught in a cross curricular way. Linking to our STEM project, the children will be solving a problem for a habitant on Star Island. They will design and create purposeful lunch boxes to be used on an island.
Religious Education	Easter This term our R.E focus is Christianity. The children will be learning about the festival of Easter read the Easter story. They will learn about the importance of Easter to Christians and the key events that took place during Easter. They will also learn about the symbols associated with Easter and how it is celebrated around the world. In Music this term, the children will continue to develop their skills in	The Bible This term, the children will look at the importance of the Bible to Christians, how it is organised and the stories that it includes. The children will read and reflect on these stories, sharing what morals or lessons can be learnt from them. playing the recorder. They will be revising the notes they know: c, d, e and
Music	f, then learn two new notes, a and b through performance. Towards the	end of the term, they will be composing using the notes that they know.
Computing	We are musicians Children will use the ipads to create their own music. They will use a specific app to edit and improve the songs that they create, focusing on different sounds, pitch and volume.	We are software developers The children have the chance to design and develop and educational game using selection and repetition. They input variables and create instructions in order to create a simple Maths game.

	<u>Handball</u>	<u>Dance</u>
P.E.	The children will be continuing their learning of invasion games with	The children will be learning a routine to the track "Uptown Funk", this is
	a new sport, handball. They will develop teamwork, defensive and	part of the Big Dance project that the school will be taking part in towards
	offensive strategies, improvement in their hand:eye coordination as	the end of the Spring term. The children will be learning a rock and roll
	well as general throwing catching /receiving skills.	dance to Jive Bunny's "That's What I Like" and finally they will be
	<u>Tennis</u>	learning the meaning and routine to the New Zealand All Blacks "Haka"
	Children will learn the skills and techniques needed for tennis: basic	pre-match ritual.
	forehand, backhand, volleying and serving skills. They will also be	
	able to put these skills into a competitive scenario as they take part in	
	a house colour tournament at the end of the term.	
	All children have access to three exciting home learning websites.	
Homework	Bug Club should be used to focus on improving reading and comprehe	ension skills.
	Mathletics and Abacus Activlearn should be used to support your child	1's learning in Mathletics abacus
	maths. If you are unsure of usernames or passwords please speak to	Bug Club
	your child's class teacher.	Bug Club