

Year 4 Curriculum Letter - Autumn 2

Our theme for Autumn 2 is:



Our main focuses are:

- Learning about the importance of the Mayan Civilisation and the cocoa bean.
- Making comparisons between what it was like during Mayan time and what it is like now.
- Investigating how materials can change state and what the states of matter are.
- Learning the process of The Water Cycle.

Our theme will last for:

9 weeks (21st October - 20th December)

Personal, Health, Social and Community Education (No Outsiders)

We will be looking at how we have choices and that it is good to learn different things. We will also learn about how it's good to be who you want to be.

Philosophy for Children (P.4.C.)

In P.4.C., we are going to be looking at the following open ended questions: Should children be allowed to eat what they want? What if you only ate chocolate?

Behaviour and Safety

This half-term, we will be focusing on what makes a good friend, how we should resolve differences and show mutual respect.

P.E.

In P.E., children will be focusing on creating characters and narrative through movement and gesture. They will gain inspiration from literacy characters from our book 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'.

Music

This topic is based on a song called The Maya (Sing Up). The pupils will learn about Latin American Music, song structure, call and response, and syncopation. The pupils will add movement and a clave rhythm to the song and they will perform it at the end of the topic.

English:

What would the world of children's literature be like without the fabulous Roald Dahl and his amazing books? We will be reading the story 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' (lucky us!) and doing some amazing writing around the story. We will also be watching both of the films; the new version is classed as a PG so please inform your child's class teacher if there are any problems with this.

Children will have the opportunity to explore the weird and wonderful characters of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. We will particularly be focusing on Charlie Bucket and his surroundings. Children will be using their imaginations to write a setting description of Charlie's home. How exciting!

Children will be taking on the role of a reporter and writing a newspaper report on the lucky golden ticket finders! This will involve some drama, for example - role play, interviewing and hot seating.

French:

This half term French is En Famille. Year 4 will be learning words for family members, relationships, how old they are and what they are called in French.



Science

There's nothing quite like having some yummy chocolate melting on your tongue. During this topic, we will be investigating solids, liquids and gases and how materials can change between states. We will be categorising some of Willy Wonka's latest inventions and testing them carefully (and perhaps eating a few too!). We will also be looking at the process of The Water Cycle!

History

Where does chocolate come from? Who first discovered cocoa? And who first thought of making it into food and drink? We will be finding out as we learn all about the Mayans this half-term.

Shared home learning:

Please spend 15 minutes, as a minimum, reading with your child everyday and please ensure that they complete their Reading Journal in this time. This should be completed every day and there is an example of what is expected in your child's journal. On a weekly basis, the children will be provided with spellings to learn for a weekly test. Try to display these in a clear location and help your child to learn them. Our homework for this half term is "We are Money Makers". Children's homework project is to become an entrepreneur and think about how to raise money. This is a two part homework! This homework will help to develop their enthusiasm and creativity (please refer to additional information on the back).

Important dates:

Tuesday 29th October - School photos
Thursday 7th November - 4HC Family Assembly at 9:00am
Wednesday 6th November - Wear Purple Day
Monday 11th November - Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 18th November D&T week

Wednesday 11th December - Christmas Fayre

Mathematics:

We will be embedding our understanding of column addition, subtraction using reasoning and problem solving skills. We will also further develop our knowledge of multiplication and division. This will be using formal written methods, as well as mental times tables skills.

In addition, we will be exploring the world of shape. Children will be identifying and comparing features of 2D and 3D shapes and symmetry.

Willy Wonka runs a successful business; to do this he needs to ensure he keeps close tabs on his money. The children will be helping him with this task by helping him balance his books!

If you would like to help your child at home, that would be wonderful. We are continuing to focus on times tables and multiplication. How quickly can you child recall multiplication facts: on your marks, get set, go!

Computing

Year 4 will be exploring the website 'Internet Legends'. Children will be learning about how to stay safe online, choosing a secure password, how to use the safety features of a website and reporting concerns to an adult. They will become e-safety experts in no time!

Art and Design Technology

Children will be mastering the art of sculpture by using a range of materials and resources to create their own version of Willy Wonka's wonderful chocolate factory. They will use techniques which require more accuracy to cut, shape, join and create their work.

R.E.

This half-term, we will be looking at Judaism including learning about beliefs and teachings, symbols, worship, codes of conduct and Hannukah.

