

Key events:

NSPCC Number Day 2024 – 2nd February
Children’s Mental Health Week 2023 – w/c 5th February
Safer Internet Day 2023 – Tuesday 6th February
(Please note that our next trip will take place in the second half of the Spring term, nearer to the Easter holidays. Details to follow soon)

PE This half term, our units are:



Gymnastics – The children will create complex sequences, learn a wider range of travelling actions and inverted movements, while also exploring ways to include apparatus.

Tennis – The children will develop the key skills required for tennis such as the ready position, racket control and forehand and backhand ground strokes, while also learning how to score points and use skills, strategies and tactics to outwit the opposition.

PE lessons take place twice a week and all children must have their correct PE kit in school. Children can only be excused if they have a letter from home.

Art

The theme for this half term is ‘**Exploring Texture and Pattern**’.

In this unit, the children will focus on formal elements of art by exploring texture and pattern. They will develop a range of mark-making techniques, making and printing with textured stamps for printing, drawing ‘flip’ patterns and recreating a famous geometric pattern.

Introduction

To kick-start 2024, we have some exciting units that the children will be covering during this first half of the spring term.

Please read our newsletter to discover the exciting learning opportunities planned for this half term!

The Year 4 teachers are:

Mrs Kelly Brady (Year Group Leader)
Miss Emily Bairstow
Miss Munira Haffeji

Support Staff:
Abi Bartlett/Laura Rouchy
Karina Llaneza Moya
Tanya Williams

The year group email address is:
year4@winns.waltham.sch.uk

Home Learning

Homework: Set fortnightly on Fridays and two weeks to complete. Will consist of spellings (including Spelling Shed), grammar, times tables practice (including TT Rockstars) and consolidation of recent maths learning.

Reading: We encourage a minimum of 20 minutes reading at home every evening. Entries should be written in Reading Records, which will be collected and checked once a week.



Science



This half term, we will be learning about ‘**States of Matter**’. In this unit, the children will compare and group materials into solids, liquids and gases. They will observe how materials change state when they are heated and cooled and measure the temperature at which changes take place. The children will understand the processes of evaporation and condensation in the context of the water cycle and make links between the rates of evaporation with the change in temperature.

History

This half-term, we will be learning about ‘**Anglo - Saxons and Scots**’.

In this unit, the children will learn about who invaded Britain after the Romans left, how we know about the Anglo-Saxons and where they came from. They will also find out about their heptarchy, how they lived, what they believed in and notable people such as Alfred the Great.



Geography will be taught again in the second half of the Spring term.

How to support your children at home

- Read with your child at home as much you can.
- Ask questions about their learning and the books that they are reading.
- Go through homework with them.
- Test them on their spellings and times tables to check fluency.

English

Reading: the children will read a variety of carefully selected books and texts to focus on the skills of prediction, vocabulary, retrieval, inference and summarising.

Writing:

Non-fiction – informative writing about the Anglo-Saxon treasures discovered at Sutton Hoo.

PSHE

This half term, our themes will be:

‘Being Responsible’ with a focus on *‘Coming Home on Time’*.

‘Feelings and Emotions’ with a focus on *‘Jealousy’*.

We will also cover additional content and activities on Safer Internet Day and throughout Children’s Mental Health Week and continue to have a worry box in each of our classrooms for the children to use it if they need to.

Music



The children will continue to enjoy their twice-weekly lessons in the piano lab as part of the special ‘Keys of Inspiration’ project founded by Chinese piano virtuoso Lang Lang. They have already added so many new songs to their repertoires, playing with both their left and right hands and even duetting with each other. We hope to be able to share some of this with you later in the year.

Maths

This half term, we will be covering the following units:



Number: Multiplication and Division

The children have already begun this unit by learning to multiply and divide by 3, 6 and 9, using both concrete and pictorial methods to solve a range of questions. They then progressed onto multiplying and dividing by 7, 11, 12, 10, 100, 1 and 0 using a range of methods to solve fluency, reasoning and problem-solving questions. By the end of the unit, they will also be able to solve multiplication and division problems up to and including 3-digits by 1-digit using a variety of methods.

Measurement: Length and Perimeter

The children will learn equivalent lengths (mm, cm, m and km) and move onto measuring the perimeter of rectilinear shapes and polygons.

Weekly Schedules:

PE days:

4KB – Monday and Tuesday
4EB - Tuesday and Wednesday
4MH – Tuesday and Thursday

Library visits:

4KB – Every Wednesday
4EB – Every Thursday
4MH – Every Wednesday

Final Word / Important Points

Please encourage your child to practise their multiplication tables and spellings by regularly logging onto the below sites, as this forms part of their homework. Your child should know their login details however, please contact us if you need them resent.

TT Rockstars - <https://play.ttrockstars.com/>

Spelling Shed - <https://play.edshed.com/>

Computing

Website Design

In this unit, the children will design and create their own websites, considering content and style, as well as understanding the importance of working collaboratively.

MFL (French)



Numbers, calendars and birthdays in French

This half term, the children will be learning numbers 1-31, the days of the week, months of the year, dates and seasons through maths, songs and class surveys. They will also research dates of French festivals and revise the unit by having a traditional French birthday celebration in the classroom.

RE

Our key question this half term is:



What can we learn from religions about deciding what is right and wrong?

In this unit, the children will give examples of rules for living from religions and suggest ways in which they might help believers with difficult decisions. The children will make connections between stories of temptation and why people can find it difficult to be good and give examples of ways in which some inspirational people have been guided by their religion. The children will discuss their own and others’ ideas about how people decide right and wrong.