

Key dates/events:

Parent Induction Meeting – 19th September
European Day of Languages – 26th September
National Poetry Day – 3rd October
Author visit (Claire Linney) – 7th October
Parent Consultation Meetings – w/b 14th October

PE

This half term, our units are:

Dance - The children will copy and create actions in response to an idea and be able to adapt this using changes of space.

Football – The children will be encouraged to persevere when developing competencies in key skills and principles such as defending, attacking, sending, receiving and dribbling a ball.

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

Design and Technology

The theme for this half term is 'Electrical Systems – Lamps/Torches'.

In this unit, the children will learn about torches, lamps and other electrical devices. They will then apply their scientific understanding of electrical circuits (from our Autumn Science unit) to create a working lamp or torch made from easily available materials and objects. The children will also design and evaluate their end products against set design criteria.

Introduction

To kick-start the Autumn Term, we have some exciting units that the children will be covering. Please read our curriculum 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:
Michael Waterston (Mr Mike)

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, 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 (on Fridays).



Science



This half term, we will be learning about **Electricity**. Your children will construct simple circuits, using different components, such as bulbs and switches. They will discover which materials conduct electricity to complete a circuit. They will also learn about electrical safety and which materials are insulators.

Geography

This half-term, we will be learning about **Rivers**. Your children will learn about where notable rivers are located in the world, how rivers shape the land through erosion and transportation of sediments, and about the different types of landforms that rivers can create. They will also learn about what happens when a river floods and why rivers are such an important part of our world.



History will be taught next half 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: The children will write their own descriptive narratives based on the wordless picture book 'Tuesday' by David Wiesner.
Poetry – Exploring metaphors and personification

PSHE

At the start of the term, the children will be reminded of the NSPCC's 'PANTS' rules and the importance of understanding that their body belongs to them, and they should tell someone they trust if anything makes them feel upset or worried. The children will also be reminded to use the class worry box when/if they need to. This will then lead to further discussions about support networks. They will also learn about 'Keeping Safe' with a focus on Cycle Safety.

RE



Our key question this half term is:

Why is Jesus inspiring to some people?

This investigation enables pupils to learn in depth from Christianity, exploring different reasons why Jesus is considered an inspiring figure by Christians – and by many other people too.

Maths

Number – Place Value

We will begin by working with numbers up to 1,000 to ensure the children are secure on this knowledge before moving into 10,000. The children will use number lines and count and represent numbers in different ways. They will learn how to round numbers to the nearest 10 and 100 and find 1, 10, 100 and 1000 more or less than a given number. They will also learn how to partition and compare numbers.

Weekly Schedules:

PE days:

4KB – Tuesday and Thursday

4EB - Tuesday and Thursday

4MH – Monday and Thursday

Library visits:

4KB – Every Wednesday

4EB – Every Thursday

4MH – Every Wednesday

Final Word / Important Points

The multiplication tables check (MTC) continues to be statutory for primary schools in the 2024/25 academic year.

The MTC assessment will be taken by pupils towards the end of year 4 (beginning-mid June) and is focused on the fluent recall of multiplication facts (up to 12 x 12).

The MTC will be delivered as an online, on-screen digital assessment and will take each pupil less than 5 minutes to complete. Further details will follow later in the year.

Computing



Collaborative Learning

This half term, the children will be learning how to work collaboratively in a responsible way, using tools including Google Docs, Sheets, Slides and Forms.

MFL (French)



Portraits – describing in French

After a brief recap of basic greetings (year 3 learning), the children will move onto learning French adjectives to describe people's physical appearance and their personality. They will learn how to create and structure simple sentences in French, ensuring that the adjectives agree with the gender of the noun.

Music



As you will know, the children thoroughly enjoyed their sessions in the piano lab last year and already know how to play quite a few simple songs, including some duets. This year, they will continue to have two whole-class piano lessons every week as part of the special 'Keys of Inspiration' project founded by Chinese piano virtuoso Lang Lang.

In addition to their twice-weekly piano lessons, the children will also have an additional music lesson each week delivered by specialist teacher from Sing Education.