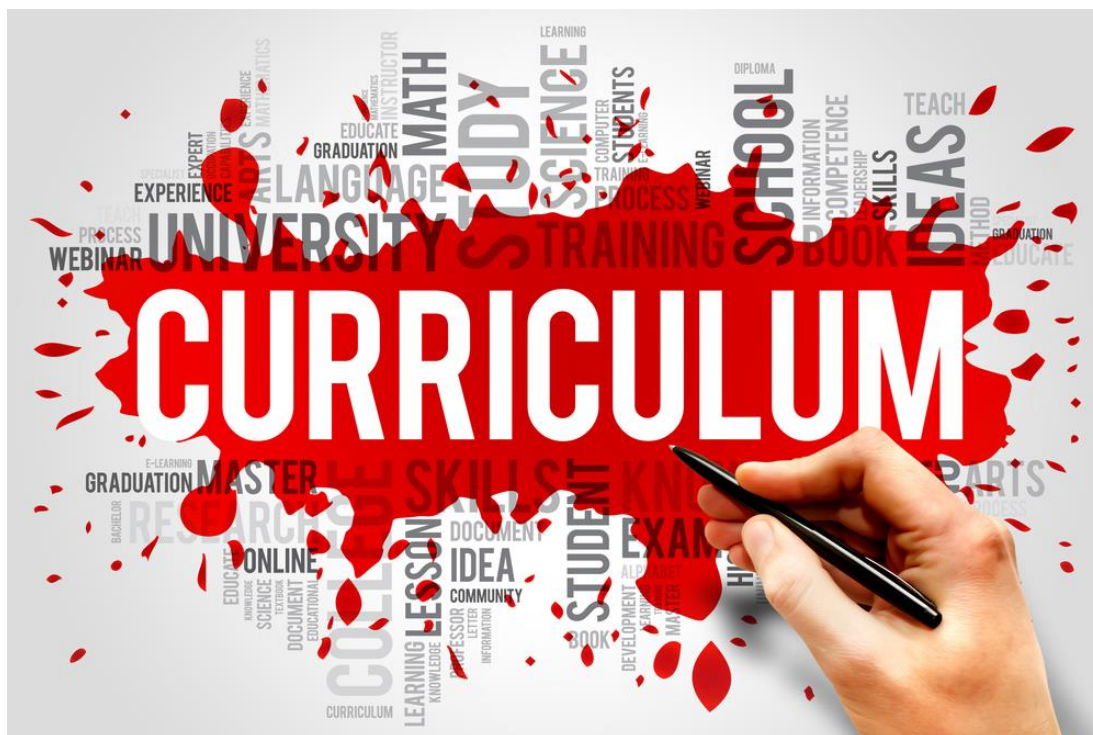


Year 4 Curriculum Themes 2020/21



Autumn Term 1 – Misty Mountain, Winding River

Ashley is our guide as we explore the misty mountains and winding rivers of the world and more specifically the United Kingdom, through the outstanding key text, King of the Cloud Forest, by famous children's author, Michael Morpurgo. This project teaches children about the characteristics and features of rivers and mountain ranges around the world, including a detailed exploration of the ecosystems and processes that shape them and the land around them. We will also explore beautiful landscape artists and their work, teaching children about the techniques that artists use when composing landscape images, such as colour and atmosphere.

Autumn Term 2 – Emperors and Empires

Join us on our Roman adventure as we read The Goose Guards by Terry Deary, and we learn all about the history and structure of ancient Rome and the Roman Empire, including a detailed exploration of the Romanisation of Britain. During this theme we will be sequencing events through time, exploring Roman Gods, investigating the growth of the Roman Empire and learning all about Boudicca's rebellion!

Spring Term 1 – Heroes and Villains

Martin Luther, Joan of Arc, Rosa Parks or Amy Johnson? Someone from your family or the local firefighters? There are many heroes and heroines, but who do you admire the most?

Learn and sing songs about the infamous villains, Bonnie and Clyde and Cruella de Vil. Write a riddle, a comic strip and change a traditional tale, develop dialogue and character and a biographical article. How does it feel to do good and bad things? Which feels best and why? Can you do a good deed that changes the world? During this theme we will be exploring a range of non-fiction texts about real life heroes, as well as exploring famous fictional heroes and villains in well-known stories. Perhaps we can be heroes, just for one day?

Spring Term 2 – Traders and Raiders

Big and strong, powerful and brave, the Saxons wave their battle axes and brandish their swords as they begin to invade Britain's shores. During this theme, we will read The Saga of Erik the Viking, and we will sail back to the Dark Ages, where battles were rife and fear reigned. We will find out about the lives of the Saxons, including how they lived and where they came from, and then we will meet the bloodthirsty Vikings from Scandinavia – never before had such terror swept the land. Within this project we will also make a Saxon sword or a Viking brooch and decorate it with intricate patterns. We will choose to be a Saxon or Viking and trade our crafty goods, but let's keep it cool. We don't want a fight breaking out. Are you ready to shine a light on the dangerous and deadly Dark Ages?

Summer Term 1 – Bottoms, Burps and Bile / Take one Author - Phillip Pullman: The Firework-Maker's Daughter

During the mornings we find out all about Lila, from Phillip Pullman's 'Firework-Maker's Daughter', who will help challenge our ideas about stereotyping people and judging people based on gender. In the afternoons, 'Bottoms, Burps and Bile' will take us on a journey through the human digestive system. Once armed with knowledge about the function of teeth, the stomach, intestines, we will apply our DT skills to create a working model to share with other classes.

Summer Term 2 – The Blue Abyss

Reading 'Whale Boy' by Nicola Davies, we will be going deep into an underwater world of incredible coral and mysterious sea creatures. We will be answering questions such as: Can you pick a favourite fish, plant or animal? What do real divers get up to below the surface? Can you create a story about an amazing underwater world? After this, we will make and test a model deep sea submarine that can withstand great pressure and travel to the deepest, darkest places on Earth. We will explore real life issues through the text Whale Boy, such as animals being kept in captivity and pollution in the world's seas. Flippers on? Snorkel ready? Let's head into the Blue Abyss.