



Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter- Spring 2 2024

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to Highwood and we hope you had a lovely half term break. We are delighted to share with you the content of the Year 4 curriculum for this half term. We hope that this gives you a window into your child's learning and enables you to have conversations with your child about what is happening in school. We hope that you find this newsletter helpful. If you require further detail about what skills and knowledge will be taught in each subject, please have a look at the curriculum page on our school website. Follow us on Twitter (@HighwoodSchool) where we will be sharing the excellent learning that happens at Highwood. If you have any questions about our curriculum, or any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks,

Miss Hewitt and Mr Kidston

Reminders

PE lessons are on a Wednesday and Thursday for both Hazel and Hawthorn.

Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE Kit. Also, long hair must be tied back, and no earrings should be worn on PE day.

Library – Monday (Hawthorn) and Thursday (Hazel).

Reading Records- hand in on Monday.



English

This half term the children will be reading these key texts:



They will be producing the following pieces of written work linked to the key texts: Non-chronological report, diary entries and play scripts.



In September, we began using the spelling scheme 'Spelling Shed'. This scheme teaches the children explicit spelling rules. Each term we will learn 5 spelling rules, and 1 set of challenge words. Lessons are taught daily, replacing their usual spelling test at the end of the week. Children are expected to practise their spellings during these lessons, as well as at home via the website www.spellingshed.com. These spelling lists will also be sent out on their termly spelling grid.

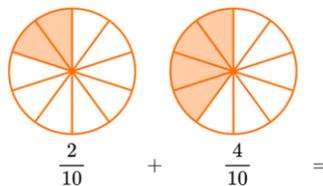
This term's spelling rules are:

'au' that makes an 'or' sound, words ending in -tion, words ending in -ssion, words ending in -cian, adverbs of manner and challenge words.

Maths

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- Calculating with decimals
- Measures (money)
- Problem solving
- Adding and subtracting fractions
- Fractions of quantities



Science: Sound

The children will be taught to the following key knowledge and skills:

- identify how sounds are made (vibrating)
- recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear
- find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it
- find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it
- recognise that sounds get fainter as the distance increases.

Home Learning



Home Learning book hand in on Monday and the books will be returned to the children on Wednesday.

Please see home learning grid for further details.

Daily Home Learning

- Daily reading and sharing stories
- Learn Spellings by using Spelling shed
- Daily times tables TTRS online.

Geography - Italy

The children will be taught key knowledge and skills to help them answer our Big Question:

Where in Italy would you like to live and why?



They will use maps to locate Italy and its capital cities.

The children will learn about the climate and culture of Italy and its human and physical features, including volcanoes.

Art

Big Piece: To design and make our own sculpture

This half term, the children will explore **sculpture** linked to the English artist, Barbara Hepworth.

The children will learn how to design and make forms in 3 dimensions using air dry clay and mod roc, understanding how to finish and present their work to a good standard.

They will become more confident at modelling materials, working safely and sensibly and persevering when the work is challenging.



In our PE lessons we will be learning the following key skills when participating in a variety of activities:

- Compare my movements and skills with those of others.
- Select and link movements together to fit a theme.
- Make up my own rules and versions of activities.
- Recognise similarities and differences in movements and expression.
- Link actions and develop sequences of movements that express my own ideas.
- Change tactics, rules or tasks to make activities more fun or more challenging.

RE



Big Question: **Why do Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday'?**

We will be learning about the events leading up to Easter and exploring the meaning of the Easter story to Christians and how they mark the events in their church communities.

P.S.H.E- 'Healthy Me'



This half term, the children will explore the ways in which we can keep ourselves healthy, both physically and mentally. We will explore healthy friendships and group dynamics, as well as learning about the effects of smoking and alcohol on our health.

Computing



In computing, we will be learning and developing computer programming skills using Micro-Bit to will create our short animations/games.

As part of our E-safety learning we will be focussing on protecting our personal information.

Music



This half term, the children will deepen their understanding of playing and performing using Djembes. They will listen to African music and learn about some of the instruments before learning traditional songs and composing their own drum and xylophone accompaniments.

French



L'argent de poche (pocket money)

The children will learn to express likes and dislikes, and prepare and perform a radio and television advertisement. They will develop confidence in manipulating numbers and learn about the euro.