

Science

Within Science, the children will be investigating **Animals, including humans** where we will look at the basic parts of the digestive system in humans; identify the different types of teeth in humans and their function; look at food chains, identifying producers, predators, and prey. Watching the BBC's Frozen Planet is a brilliant way to see predators and prey in action!

At home you could remind your child of why we brush our teeth at least twice a day and discuss why this is important.

Making a Change Year 4, Autumn 2

Topic

This half term the children will discover how they can make a difference to the community that we live in. As the saying goes – if you think you're too small to make a difference, try going to sleep when you hear a mosquito. We may be small, but we can change things for the better. Unlike mosquitos, but you get the idea.

French

In French lessons the children will be revisiting the use of the masculine and feminine forms of words. **To support the children there are a number of great websites and apps, including the BBC schools' website and Duo Lingo.**

P.E.

Our indoor sessions will be focussed on gymnastics: learning to form a number of the basic shapes and moves such as tuck, star, pin and pike. They will also attempt more dynamic moves such as flight, rotation and travel. We will, of course, also be continuing with our weekly sessions of swimming at White Meadows. This seems to be working very well and I've enjoyed seeing the improvements that have happened already. **Please try to encourage your children to join sports clubs at school as they are always great fun.**

Music

Yes, it's only October, but the Christmas decorations have been in the shops since August. This means it's time for the children to warm up their singing voices in preparation for our Christmas Carol Concert.

PSHCE & R.E.

It's a busy religious half term of celebrations as we will be discussing the significance of Christingle and the build up to Christmas, as well as looking at Diwali, the festival of lights.

In PSHE, we will continue to follow our Jigsaw scheme and the focus this time being celebrating difference. We will also look at Remembrance Day and its importance.

Design and Technology

Tying in with our topic we will be researching, designing and making our own litter-pickers, with the idea that we will go on a litter pick as part of our drive to improve our community. Whether this happens around the school or we do a beach clean is yet to be determined.

English

In Guided Reading sessions, children will be reading a range of texts, completing tasks to improve comprehension and inference skills. **Please read with your child as often as possible – it can have a huge impact on their progress.** The children will continue to focus on fluency and expression in class – challenging them to show emotions and make use of the punctuation in their text. They will also be encouraged to query new words or parts of a text that are unclear so they learn ways to improve their understanding. **Spelling will be a big focus this half term – please ensure your child is practising their spellings regularly and help them to break down sounds by splitting words into syllables so they can spell one part at a time.**

Computing

This half term the children will be looking at doing their own coding. We will be using the popular program "Scratch" which is an excellent way to grasp the basics of computer code.

Maths

Children will be required to know all times tables by the summer term in readiness for the Year 4 Multiplication Check, so these will be a key focus. **They will go on TT Rockstars every morning to practise and if you could support this by encouraging your child to practise daily at home this would be a big help.** Learning times tables songs from YouTube, online games, chanting or quickfire practice will significantly help your child.

Our Maths focus this half term will be addition and subtraction, multiplication and division and time. We will also explore investigation skills and reasoning within each maths topic.

Please task your children with multiplying amounts and dividing them. This could link well with cooking at home and sharing amounts between different members of the family.