

TERMtalk

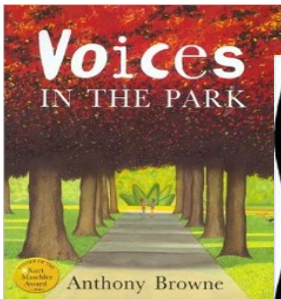
CURRICULUM NEWS
FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Year 4 Summer Term 2017



English

This term the children will be studying books written by the author and illustrator Anthony Browne. In **Voices in the Park** they will explore the story of a visit to the park from the point of view of four different characters. They will learn how authors use text and illustrations to show the moods of their characters and through drama and role play they will explore the relationships between them. The book will be a stimulus for the children to write character descriptions, letters offering advice and diary entries.



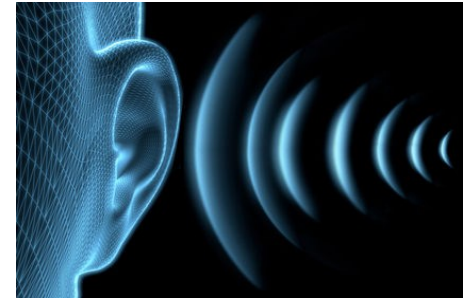
During the second half of the term children will be studying another Book by Anthony Browne: **Zoo**. Again, they will use drama and role play to help them write diary entries and play scripts relating to the book. The children will then move on to nonfiction writing, researching different endangered animals from the text. They will write letters and leaflets designed to persuade readers to care for and protect the endangered animals. The children will also have the opportunity to learn a narrative poem which tells a story. Children will be looking at the poem *“The Visitor”* by Ian Serrallier. They will study the structure and language of the poem and compare it to normal narrative.

Maths

This term we will continue to work on **place value**. We will **compare** and **order numbers up to 10,000** including numbers less than one. The children will be also round numbers to the nearest integer (including decimals) by looking at the value of the digit after. They will also use this decimal notation when solving money problems. The children will also consolidate using the formal written column method when **adding** and **subtracting numbers to 10,000**. In preparation for their transition to Year 5, the children will be learning how to multiply and divide using the formal written methods. **It is essential that the children know all the times table facts up to 12 and are able to relate them to division**. This will also help them when they are asked to find **fractions of numbers**.

In addition, the children will be undertaking work on **time, shape and measures**. They will identify name, compare and classify **polygons**, including special triangles. They will identify and compare **acute and obtuse angles, as well as make predictions about angle size**. The children will be learning to read co-ordinates, draw and **translate shapes** using a co-ordinate grid, in the first quadrant. They will continue to solve **Time problems using time tables** and calculating time differences. Linked to this, the children will interpret and present **continuous data using time graphs**, with a range of scales, and relate to recording change over time. Finally, children will be undertaking **practical problems involving mass and capacity**.

Please see the Maths Calculation Policy on the school's website for further information.



Science

During the first half term, Year 4 will continue their work on electricity, before starting a new topic about **Sound**. They will learn how sounds are made and that sounds travel in waves through solids, liquids and gases. The children will also be investigating how well sound travels through different materials and discover how instruments make sounds. Finally the children will make suggestions about how to change the pitch and loudness of a sound or an instrument.

Our last Science topic for year 4 will be **Living Things and Their Habitats**. Through **discussion** and **investigation** we will discover what an **organism** is and where they live. We will find out how different **climates**, other **plant life** and **environmental changes** affect the **life style** and **evolution** of plants and animals. The children will explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment. This will link in with our work on **categorising** animals in the Autumn term.

The children will also be undertaking cross curricular work, linked with the English non-fiction topic about endangered animals.

OUR FOUNDATION

Art and Design

This term we are incorporating our art into our project work, and asking the children to look at **line, shape, pattern and texture in all art forms**. They will also explore and use different **media** to create a range of 2D and 3D art work. The children will also be encouraged to explore different art forms and evaluate and make suggestions about how they could improve their work.

In Design, the children will be designing Ancient Greek vases in the style of red and black figure pottery. They will also be modelling pots based on Ancient Greek designs.

In Art, Mr Jerry our visiting artist,



will be spending a day in each class creating a piece of art linked to the topic about endangered animals, which we will be investigating in both English and Science.

Homework

Homework tasks are given to consolidate your child's learning. It is **essential** that all children are given support with all their homework; this includes learning to spell the words on their weekly spelling list .

Homework will be given out every Friday and must be returned on Monday.



History

This term children will be learning about the civilization of Ancient Greece.

They will be locating Greece on a map and placing Ancient Greece on a timeline. Children will discover why sailing and trade were important and contributed to the wealth of cities like Athens. They will find out about the birth of democracy in Athens, and contrast with the way of life in military Sparta.

In addition, the children will be learning about Ancient Greek gods and goddesses and what the Greeks believed happened after people died. The children will also research the everyday life for ordinary families and slaves in the cities of Greece. Finally, they will be learning about Greek leisure past times; the children will be linking modern sports through discovering the origin of the Olympic Games, and finding out about the Ancient Greek theatre.

Computing

This first of the term, children will be extending the coding skills and knowledge they learned in the Autumn term, using the Scratch program. Their Maths logic and problem solving skills will be extended, through the use of this game, which will also include the creation of interactive characters. Their programming skills will also be enhanced as they continue to develop their understanding and use of the variables and loops instructions.



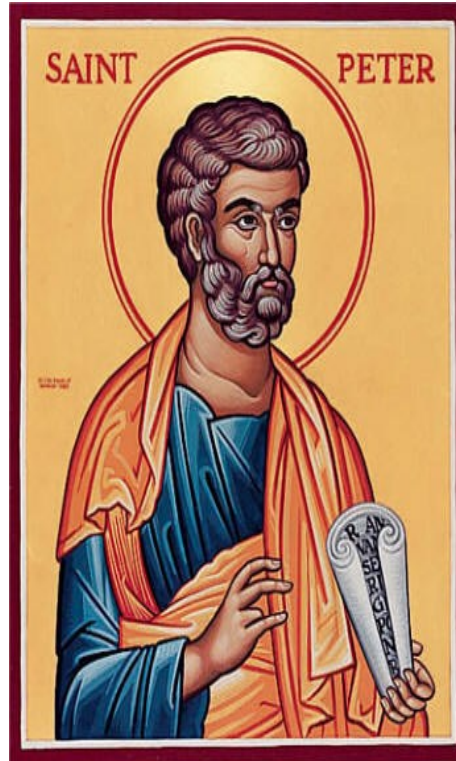
In the second half of the term, children will be recording using **iMovie**. They will plan a film sequence then use the **iPads** to record their own short films. They will develop an understanding of the different types of shots in filming and will be cutting and editing their own work to produce a final film.

SUBJECT NEWS

Music

This term children will continue to learn how to play the violin. They will also be consolidating their ability to use the bow finger positions correctly, and enhance their skills when reading and interpreting notation and rhythms.

The classes will also take part in weekly Hymn Practice sessions learning new hymns for Masses.



Religion

Our theme for first half term is *“The Mission of the Church”* Children will learn that Peter was chosen by Jesus to play a special role in the Church and that Jesus gave his followers a mission – to spread the Good News to others. **See separate RE newsletter for more information.**

During the second half term, the theme is *“Belonging to the Church”* Children will learn that The Church is the family of God, the People that God gathers in the whole world. This Church is the communion of Christ’s disciples, brought together in Christ, its Head, by the Holy Spirit. **See separate RE newsletter for more information.**

Also this term we will cover our ‘Journey in Love’ relationships topic.

Physical Education

This term, the children will continue their weekly **swimming lessons** at the swimming pool in Camberwell. The lessons will take place on Monday & Wednesday. Swimming is an essential life skill and it is very important that each child attends these lessons. ***Please ensure that your child brings their swimming costume, a swimming cap and a towel every week.***

In addition, the children will be having **Street dance** lessons. The children will be taught the skills of dance routines and choreography by a trained instructor. These lessons will help children improve their co-ordination skills, as well as enhance their ability to focus, concentrate, respect their partner. They will learn what makes a good street dance performance and know what techniques are used to achieve this. Your children will also learn the value of self-control and the power of cooperation; gain the ability to set and achieve goals and learn to persevere and not give up when faced with challenges. After half term, the children will undertake a range of athletics skills and activities which will enable them improve their running, jumping and throwing skills ready for our Sports Day in July.



Please make sure that your child wears the correct summer P.E. kit:- a white P.E. shirt, navy shorts and plimsolls or trainers.