



Dear Parents and Carers,

September 2024

Welcome back to the new academic year. We have had a great first week settling into Year 4.

We are looking forward to working with you and your children, and we know that we will have a brilliant year together. This letter is for your information, outlining the learning taking place in Year 4 this term. Throughout the Autumn Term, we will be covering the following:

Subject	Learning taking place at school	Links to previous learning to use as discussion points at home	Additional ideas to support your child at home
English	<p>Throughout the term, we will be using high quality texts to inspire the children in developing their writing skills. We will cover a range of different writing genres including diary entries, historical narratives, biographies and myths. We will be linking a number of books with our first project on the Romans. We will also be starting the year with a focus on the text 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. This will link to our English and Guided Reading lessons.</p> <p>After half term, we will continue to use high quality texts, to continue to inspire the children. As well as using non-fiction texts to learn more about modern day America, we will also be learning from a range of Native American Myths. Through these texts, the children will be able to</p>	<p>The children have previously covered a range of writing styles at Trent. Therefore, they will be able to build on their narrative styles to create historical narratives They have also experienced</p>	<p>Discuss the current topic with your child, and ask them what they have been learning in English. We would encourage children to use dictionaries and thesauruses at home to expand and understand the vocabulary they are using.</p> <p>One of the most important things for children to do is ensure they are regularly reading. Please support your child in reading by signing their reading journals after they have read for 20 minutes.</p> <p>You may wish to explore different areas of Literacy through this link: https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/subjects/zv48q6f</p>

develop their understanding of Native American culture and how they look after the planet. These texts will support the children during their project *Road Trip USA* and help them to embed their project knowledge with their writing.

During the Autumn term, we will be developing Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, which will build and embed the areas learnt in Year 3 and move them forward into Year 4. The children will also learn key grammar terminology including: word classes (nouns, adverbs, adjectives and prepositions); noun phrases; conjunctions (subordinating and coordinating); and fronted adverbials.

writing diary entries and poetry, which will support them this year in their writing.

Much of the punctuation that the children have learnt already will be relevant to Year 4. We will be building on their understanding of punctuation and looking to include a range of effective punctuation within their writing. Additionally, much of the terminology used in Year 4 is relevant to their prior learning including word classes and fronted adverbials.

<p>Maths</p>	<p>This year, we are continuing our innovative approach to teaching mathematics. Our curriculum will revolve around weekly themes, each dedicated to a distinct mathematical concept or area. This strategic shift aims to enhance student engagement and ensure the sustained retention of mathematical knowledge throughout the academic year.</p> <p>We will be looking at Place Value, the four operations, fractions and decimals, perimeter and area, and statistics this Autumn term.</p> <p>We will have a strong focus on mental arithmetic and reviewing prior learning at the start of each lesson to refresh the children's memory. Arithmetic will be practiced regularly and children will be given time to refine and develop their calculation strategies in order to become secure and confident in working out sums using all the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division).</p> <p>A key area of Maths that we will be focusing on this year will be times tables as by the end of Year 4 children should be confident with their times tables up to 12 x 12. This year the children will take part in the Government's Multiplication Check.</p>	<p>Children have covered place value up to three digit numbers in previous years. We will be building on this to get to four digit numbers.</p> <p>The children have previously covered counting forwards and backwards in intervals and comparing numbers, which will be consolidated and developed over the term.</p> <p>Children have covered the four operations at Trent,</p>	<p>Maths will be set regularly as part of the children's home learning. This will reflect what has been taught in school, the children will benefit from discussing areas in Maths that are included at home. We would also encourage regularly checking both digital and analogue times with your child as this is an area that children often find challenging. Lots of exposure to telling the time will benefit them hugely.</p> <p>We would encourage the children to practice their multiplication tables regularly in order to support their recall. There are a number of great songs on Youtube and BBC Supermovers which can be used to help teach the children their times tables.</p> <p>Please ensure your child has all the necessary mathematical equipment in their pencil cases (pencil, sharpener and ruler).</p> <p>There are some fantastic Maths activities on the following links that you might wish to use to re-enforce any learning: https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/ordering-and-sequencing-numbers https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/topics/zpdwxnb</p> <p>Here is a link to a Multiplication Check which is similar to the one they will sit later in the year: https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check</p> <p>Please note that the time tables which are taught in Year 4 are the 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12 times tables. Therefore, all other tables (2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables) should have been learnt in earlier year groups.</p>

		including word problems.	The link below is to the website outlining the maths scheme that we follow. If your child is finding an area of maths particularly tricky, they may find tasks and videos on here helpful. We are often asked about the methods that we use to teach particular maths skills. This website will outline those methods. https://whiterosemaths.com/
Science	<p>Over the course of the first half term, we will be exploring Sound. The children will be able to describe how sound is made and ways in which sound can be modified. They will carry out a range of activities in order to develop a range of working scientifically targets.</p> <p>After the half term, we will be learning about Electricity. The children will learn to construct circuits and describe and explain the role of various components in a circuit. They will learn about conductors and insulators and their role in circuits.</p>	<p>The children have been developing their understanding of working scientifically throughout their time at Trent.</p> <p>In Year 2, the children started learning about sound during their Summer project.</p>	<p>For additional reading for children about sound: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zgffr82</p> <p>For additional reading for children about electricity: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zj44jxs</p>
Religious Education	<p>This term we will be looking at Christianity. During the first half term we will be exploring the big question <i>How did belief in God affect the actions of people from the Old Testament?</i></p> <p>After half term, we will be continuing with Christianity where we will be exploring the big question: <i>Is the Christmas message of peace still relevant for today's world?</i></p>	Children will have a good prior understanding of Christianity from studying Christianity in previous years.	<p>Discuss with your child what they have been learning in RE and encourage them to read stories from the Old Testament.</p> <p>More information can also be found here: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztkxpv4</p>

<p>Personal, Social, Health Economic (PSHE) Education</p>	<p>During the first part of the Autumn Term, we will focus on Mental and Physical Health as well as how to be safe on the internet.</p> <p>After the Autumn Half Term, we will be exploring loss and bereavement and use the first page of Michael Rosen’s ‘Sad Book’ as discussion material.</p> <p>Through PSHE sessions, children will recognise their individuality and personal qualities, strengths and achievements, and how these contribute to a sense of self-worth and mental health and well-being.</p>	<p>At Trent, we encourage children to explore friendships and the various roles we play to build harmonious relationships. The children will be able to build on their own personal experiences in order to develop them later.</p>	<p>Encourage your children to discuss their relationships at home and at school and what the strengths are within them. We would also encourage discussions with your children about what their goals are and how they can successfully achieve these goals.</p> <p>Please let us know if there are any sensitive personal experiences with bereavement that we need to be made aware of.</p>
<p>History and Geography</p>	<p>Our Creative Curriculum Project for the first half term will be based around the Romans and their legacy in Britain. The children will be looking to answer the big question <i>How did the arrivals of the Romans change Britain?</i> The first project of the year is entitled <i>Ruthless Romans</i> which we will link to a variety of subjects.</p> <p>As part of History we will be learning about the Romans and how they impacted Britain. The children will learn about the different roles people played in Roman Britain including the roles of men and women. The children will learn</p>	<p>The children will be able to build on their prior learning of life in Britain from the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages in Year 3. This will help them to build on their</p>	<p>For more information about the Romans have a look at this link: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwmpfg8</p> <p>For more information about Native Americans and the USA look at these links: https://www.ducksters.com/geography/usgeography.php https://www.historyforkids.net/native-americans.html</p>

	<p>about Gladiators, Soldiers and the similarities and differences between the Britons and the Romans.</p> <p>Our Project for the second half term is <i>Road Trip USA</i>, which will enable us to explore Native American history and areas of the USA.</p> <p>As part of history we will explore key events in Native American History which led to modern day America. We will also learn about some key historical figures of America.</p>	<p>chronology of British History.</p>	
<p>Geography</p>	<p>As part of Geography, the children will compare England to Italy and look at the physical geography of both countries. The children will also be able to locate a number of Roman cities and towns, which are located in England.</p> <p>Throughout this term, the children will be developing their map skills and their understanding of human and physical geography. The children will learn about climate, megacities and tourism.</p>		
<p>Design and Technology (DT)</p>	<p>As part of Design and Technology, we will learn about the food eaten by the Romans and the Celts. The children will be able to compare the types of food and discuss hygiene associated with food preparation during their Roman Workshop. The children will also create their own Roman inspired shields.</p>		
<p>Art</p>	<p>As part of Art, we will be looking at presidency paintings and creating Obama. If we have time, we will explore Native American paintings and infer what they tell us about their tribes.</p>		

<p>Computing</p>	<p>As part of our Computing curriculum, the children will learn about keeping safe online. The children will explore emailing and how to protect their personal information both online and in real life. They will identify the input device (microphone) and output devices (speaker or headphones) required to work with sound digitally. Learners will discuss the ownership of digital audio and the copyright implications of duplicating the work of others. In order to record audio themselves, learners will use iMovie to produce a podcast, which will include editing their work, adding multiple tracks, and opening and saving the audio files. Finally, learners will evaluate their work and give feedback to their peers.</p> <p>We will also be learning about Computing Systems and Networks.</p>	<p>Children have prior experience with iPads throughout Trent.</p>	<p>Children may be aware of iMovie from devices at home.</p>
<p>Physical Education</p>	<p>Indoor PE</p> <p><i>Gymnastic: floor work:</i></p> <p>To show coordination, balance, control and confidence in a variety of different gymnastics movements, and when performing sequences.</p> <p>To be able to travel in a variety of ways showing good posture and balance</p> <p>To demonstrate more complex individual static balances</p> <p>To be able to take weight on their hands while performing dynamic balances</p>	<p>PE will build on their prior experience of PE at Trent.</p>	<p>Please support your child in remembering the days that they have PE and need to wear their PE kits to school.</p> <p>PE days this year will be Monday and Wednesday.</p>

	<p>To demonstrate a variety of rolls, linking them to other movements</p> <p>Outdoor PE</p> <p><i>Cricket</i></p> <p><i>We are really lucky to be welcoming Alicia Titre from Chance to Shine Cricket. She will be coaching our pupils in KS2 on their cricket skills:</i></p> <p>To create a fun filled environment that encourages learning.</p> <p>To encourage team work and communication skills</p> <p>Batting - to make contact with the ball using the full face of the bat.</p> <p>to maximise scoring opportunities through boundaries and singles.</p> <p>Bowling - to bowl accurately towards a target/batter</p> <p>Fielding - to be physically and mentally prepared to intercept a moving ball</p>		
Music	<p>Year 4 will have weekly music lessons taught by Ms Ordon. Year 4's Music topic is 'Class Band'. We will work on listening and note reading skills to be able to perform a number of pieces as a class band using tuned percussion and keyboards.</p>	<p>Ms Ordon aims to build on the pupil's prior experience of rhythm and music.</p>	<p>When listening to music ask children if they can describe what they can hear and some of the instruments involved.</p>
French	<p>The children will receive a specialist French lesson each week. Madame Kenealy will be starting a new French scheme of work. The children will be</p>		<p>You can support your child by discussing lessons or topics, and encouraging additional personal research or practice.</p>

	revising colours, learning parts of the body, looking at adjectives, learning that all nouns have a gender, zoo animals, learning 'etre', Christmas etc. They will also be singing lots of songs and rhymes.		
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PE

Year 4 will have PE on Mondays and Wednesday. Children need to wear full Trent PE kit to school on these days. As we aim for lessons to be outdoors as often as possible, we recommend that children wear their outdoor PE kit (green jogging bottoms, Trent PE top, green jumper). We ask that your child wear either black or white trainers. We recommend providing your child with a spare pair of plimsolls for them to keep in school in case they need to change their shoes during the school day due to the weather. Children are not allowed to wear jewellery during PE lessons (excluding a small stud in each ear). Children are not permitted to wear any jewellery (including earrings) during swimming lessons.

Homework

We will continue using Atom Learning this year. Please continue to look at Google Classroom where weekly updates are shared and project work will be assigned.

Reading

Your child will continue to benefit from group and whole class guided reading at school. However, the expectations for speed and accuracy in reading in Year 4 increase from Year 3. Please make sure your child reads every night for 20 minutes. Currently, your child has a reading record, which should be signed every day by an adult at home.

Equipment

Thank you to all who have purchased the school pencil case containing the equipment your child will need for this year. We will be focusing on ensuring that your child takes responsibility for their own equipment. If items need replacing, we would be grateful if you could support us in this. The items your child will need are: a clear pencil case, a pencil, a blue non-erasable writing pen (no biro please), a ruler, a sharpener, a glue stick, a purple pen and a whiteboard pen.

Please check with your child on a regular basis if they need any new items. We recommend that your child always has two pens and two pencils in their pencil case. Any stationery that is not from the school shop will be sent home. We encourage children to put a line through any mistakes to show us their progress. If coloured pens/pencils are brought in, keep in mind they may get lost and are only to be used outside of curriculum learning.

Please provide your child with a water bottle every day and a healthy fruit snack to eat during morning break time.

Behaviour Policy

The Behaviour Policy has been clearly explained to all the children across the school. They understand the standard of behaviour expected of them and are responding positively. At Trent, we encourage and recognise positive behaviour by rewarding children who do well in a variety of ways.

Dates for your diary

30th September – 11th October- Swimming lessons

Thursday 19th September – Roman DT Day (bring in cardboard for our shields please!) **More information on costumes to follow**

Wednesday 20th November – Thursday 21st November – Parent Consultations

Thursday 24th October – Life in Roman Britain Workshop **More information on costumes to follow**

Monday 28th October- Friday 1st November – Half Term

Thursday 14th November – Individual Class Photos

Friday 9am 29th November – Y4 Class Sharing Assembly

22nd November and 25th November – INSET Days

We look forward to working with you during the terms ahead and we know it will be a brilliant year.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Best wishes,

Year 4 Team