



# Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter (Summer Term 2022)

Key Info and Dates for Year 4

Spring 2022

## Our Topic – Global Connections

Welcome back to our Year 4 children and their families, we hope you have had a restful break and are ready for another exciting term. It has been a pleasure seeing the children return back after the break. As always, we have a busy term ahead and lots of exciting things planned.

Our topic this half term is 'Global Connections'. As part of the topic.

In Geography, we will be using maps of the world to study where different countries are and what natural resources they produced. In addition to this, we will be investigating how the resources are produced and how global connections are made through trade.

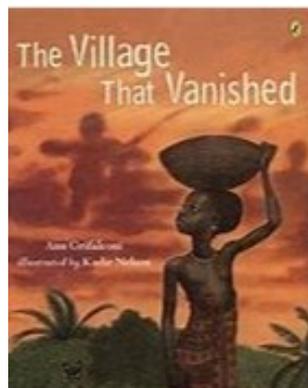
In History, we will be learning about the key events in history of 'Ancient Maya'. We will be exploring a range of sources, evidence, artefacts to learn about the social structures of the Ancient Mayan Civilisation. Children will learn where and when the Ancient Maya Civilisation was; learn about everyday life and Ancient Maya's religious beliefs and the importance of sacrifices. In addition to this learn that chocolate can be traced back to the Ancient Maya Civilisation, how it is harvested and the impact Maya's had on the world through trade.

Linked to this, in DT we will explore a range of chocolate products and evaluate them. The children will design and make their own chocolate products and make them.

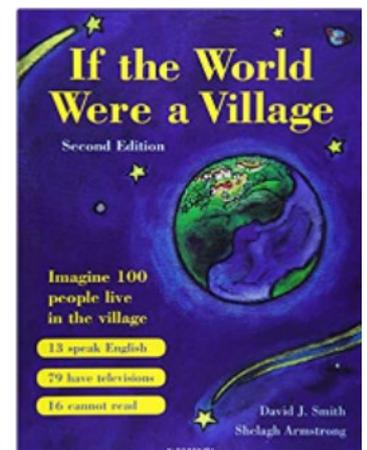


### This Term's Core Books

Young Abikanile and all of the villagers of Yao feel safe hidden deep within the African jungle. But word has come that the slavers are on their way! Abikanile looks to her mother and her grandmother for strength and guidance. These two brave women come up with a plan to fool the slavers and protect their tribe. But will it work?



By exploring the lives of the 100 villagers, children will discover that life in other nations is often very different from their own. 'If the World Were a Village' is a beautifully illustrated text which will inform the children about the world and inspire them to be better global citizens.



## English this term...

In English this half term, our core text is 'The Village the Vanished' by the author Ann Grifalconi. This is a lovely folk tale, with beautiful illustrations that tells the story of bravery, courage, hope and sacrifice. The story of how the inhabitants of a West African village were captured by slave traders, but thanks to the wisdom, courage and faith of three generations of women: the child Abikanile, her mother Njemile and her grandmother Chimwala they villagers are saved. The text is retold in a style resembling the oral tradition as narrated by an African storyteller or griot. The key to this text is "reading" the illustrations; looking closely at the details, drawing inference from the text and actions within them because they all contribute to the meaning and the message. We will be using the text as inspiration for meaningful for writing.

### Writing

We will cover a range of text types including narrative writing, newspaper reports and character and setting descriptions. The children will be expected to demonstrate their understanding of the grammar focus for the week in their writing. In grammar, we will be looking at:

- Punctuation (capital letters, full stops, commas)
- Past and present tense
- Conjunctions / Noun phrases / Fronted adverbials
- Figurative language



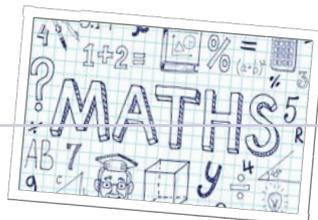
## Our Maths Topics

### Maths

We will be consolidating our place value, addition and subtraction knowledge. Practising instant recall of times tables and division facts are all very useful ways to support your child. Practising telling the time at home is another key skill that will also be of great benefit.

Children in Year 4 will be tested on their times-tables at the end of the academic year

Your child will now have access to **DB Primary**. On the website, they will be able to complete maths activities and practise key maths skills at their level. Each child has been given their own login and passwords.



## PE in Year 4

The class teacher will inform you of your child's PE days. Pupils should come to school in their PE kit on their class PE day. Please ensure your children are not wearing any jewellery on these days and be aware that any stud style earrings will be taped to ensure pupils' safety.



## Our Science Learning

For the first half term, we will be learning about 'Electricity'. Children will be learning: the names and functions of the basic parts of the series circuit. Develop an understanding and purpose of key components and the different type of circuits. They will move on to learning about how electricity is produced, in what ways we make use of it and how keep safe around it. The children will recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.

For the second half term, we will be focusing on topics the children want to explore further and investigate.

### Reading Journals

Pupils in Year 4 should read daily for a minimum of 20 minutes, and their skills are best developed when a more experienced reader reads with them and discusses their book. All pupils have access to the school library from which they may borrow up to two books at a time.

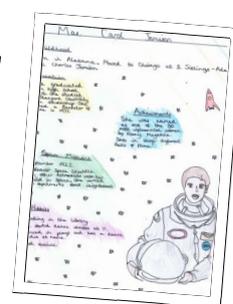
Reading Journals :For children to make good progress in their reading, they should read for a short period of time everyday. To help the children keep track of what they read and develop their independence, they have a reading journal. Inside your child’s reading journal you will also find 8 pages full of learning aids to support your child in English, please encourage your child to use these regularly.

What should you do: Please can you sign or initial in your child’s reading journal to agree that your child has completed their reading that day. This will ensure that their effort is recognised and they receive their reading journal mark on their chart. Children should have a record of reading a minimum of 5 times per week.

### Home Learning Tasks

In Year 4, we continue to set two home learning tasks each **Friday**, normally due in on the following **Wednesday**. We know that pupils sometimes have questions or queries about tasks and so we offer them the chance to speak to their teachers about them on Monday.

This should allow them the weekend to attempt the activity and several evenings following to act on the teacher’s advice. If they are still unable to complete the task, please speak to the class teacher.



### Summer Term 2022—Dates For Your Diary

#### MAY 2022

**12th May** – Year 4 Sharing Assembly, 2.45pm

**w/c 16th May** – Walk to School Week

**17th May** – Class Photos

**24th May** – 4W & 4P trip to British Museum

**25th May** – 4T & 4S trip to British Museum

**27th May** – **INSET DAY (school closed to all pupils)**

**30th May – 3rd June HALF TERM HOLIDAY**

#### JUNE 2022

**6th June** – **INSET DAY (school closed to all pupils)**

**7th – 10th June** – Platinum Jubilee & Diversity Week

**10th June** – Jubilee Celebration / International Picnic on the school field

**14th June** – Parent Forum, 2.30pm

#### JULY 2022

**1st July** – KS2 Sports Day (Year 3, 4,5 & 6)

**13th July** – Class Swap Morning

Open Evening for Parents & Carers

**21st July** – Class Parties

**LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM**

**(SCHOOL EARLY FINISH AT 2.00PM)**