



Year 4

Learning Letter

Class Teachers:

Miss Roberts (Maple)

Mrs Smith (Rowan)

Teaching Assistants:

Mrs Ormerod (Maple) and Miss Graham (Rowan)

Mr Chadwick – P.E.

Autumn 2024

Mathematics

In Mathematics this half term children will look at place value including numbers to 10 000 and rounding numbers before moving on to look at addition and subtraction within 10 000. Throughout the mathematics sessions children will continually solve real-life problems, applying all the new mathematics skills they have developed. We will learn to apply our number knowledge to Roman numerals before moving onto focusing on addition and subtraction including exchanges with numbers up to four digits.

In Autumn 2 we will have an introduction to area, using squares to calculate the area of rectilinear shapes, before moving onto multiplication and division using all of our times tables facts up to the 12x table.

English

In English this term the children will be exploring a new unit of 'The One Hundred and One Dalmatians' by Dodie Smith. They will be discovering and generating vocabulary for descriptive writing. They will also be creating their own opening to the story with their choice of dog breed. As well as this, the children will create a non-fiction information page about a specific breed of dog. Later in the term, we will be looking at fairy tales with integrated poetry using the text: 'Rumaysa; A Fairytale by Radiya Hafiza', incorporating role-play skills. The grammar skills that we will focus on this term will be how to create complex sentences, punctuating speech and using fronted adverbials for when and where.

Reading

The children will participate in four 30-minute guided reading sessions a week (these sessions will be phonics based for relevant children). The teacher will carefully select texts for all groups of children to offer an appropriate level of challenge and enjoyment. The books selected should be comfortable for the readers, but offer some challenge.

Challenge may be in terms of reading cues and strategies, language and vocabulary or sophisticated aspects of grammar, inference, skimming and scanning.

Maple: <https://www.lowerhousejunior.co.uk/year-4-maple/>

Rowan: <https://www.lowerhousejunior.co.uk/year-4-rowan/>

Group reading can offer opportunities for:

- Observing, recording, reporting and assessing children's reading strategies and behaviours and keeping an eye on progress.
- Teaching reading strategies for different kinds of reading – e.g. plays, narrative poetry, information texts, as well as novels and regular practice in tackling unfamiliar – and familiar – print.
- Establishing confidence.
- Talking about texts – with and without an adult.
- Tackling challenging texts in a spirit of communal support.
- Noting where readers might be guided next in their reading choices.
- Giving a high profile to reading as a valuable and public activity.
- Linking reading, writing and talk.

Science

In the first half term the children will learn all about electricity. The children will identify common appliances that run on electricity and construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers! We will also look carefully at how electricity can be dangerous and how to be safe around it. They will be experimenting and investigating to learn about insulators and conductors.

During the second half term, we will be learning about the digestive system with links to our teeth too!

Geography

Geography will be taught during Autumn 1.

In Geography, our enquiry question is: 'How are mountains formed and what causes an earthquake, tsunami or volcano?'

Lesson 1 – Locate the world's countries using maps. Describe key aspects of physical geography (introduction to mountains, earthquakes and volcanoes).

Lesson 2 – Earthquakes study – causes and effects.

Lesson 3 – Volcanoes Study – Types and Eruptions.

Lesson 4 – Mountains Study – Formation and Features.

Lesson 5 – Map Skills – Coordinates and Data Collection (use 4-fig grid refs to locate volcanoes, mountains, epicentres of earthquakes; collect data on earthquake occurrences or volcanic eruptions).

Lesson 6 – (assessment lesson - use presentation/multimedia software to record and explain geographical features and processes

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History

History will be taught during Autumn 2.

In History, our enquiry question is: 'What was the impact of the Lancashire Cotton Industry on the lives of children living in Lancashire and beyond?'

We will look at the impact that the Romans had on Manchester, recapping prior learning. Throughout this unit we will look at the impact of the following landmarks/events on Manchester and how they have influenced culture, music and football:

- The Peterloo Massacre
- Life for Children in Manchester in 1800
- Cottonpolis
- The Industrial Revolution

DT

In DT, the children will create an A4 personal flag for Burnley which incorporates a running stitch and linked to the cotton industry

We have decided that our personalised flag will be a flag for Burnley. Through the Autumn term we will be looking at the recognisable features of Burnley that we can include in our flag as well as getting inspiration from other flags, such as football badges. We will also be exploring the different materials we can use. Once we have planned what our flag will look like and gathered the appropriate materials, we will be then making our flag by sewing it, using a running stitch and this will then become our final end product.

P.S.H.E

As a school, we will continue to use the Dot.Com scheme to deliver these lessons. There will be one lesson each week, which will incorporate a variety of discussions and activities.

PE

Year 4 have PE on a Friday afternoon and a Wednesday morning with Mr Chadwick (FUNDA). Please can all children wear their PE kits in line with the school uniform policy on PE days. Thank you for your help and support with this matter.

During the children's lessons with Mr Chadwick (FUNDA) the children will be looking at mindfulness and learning how mindfulness can help the body. They will be looking at the different techniques they can use to help with this. The children will also be learning about Movement and Fitness to Music and how this can be beneficial to their overall health whilst also having fun.

This term Rowan Class will be going swimming on Tuesday afternoons. For this, all children who are going swimming will be expected to bring a bag containing their swimming costume/trunks, a towel and swimming cap for children with long hair. For those children

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who need goggles for swimming, they will have to fill out a permission slip that is provided by the Leisure Centre.

Music

For Music this term we will start by looking at the musical band ABBA. We will look at the band throughout Autumn 1 and will look at the structure of some of their songs and the styles that their songs have. In addition to this we will also be analysing their performances on stage. In Autumn 2 we will look at using the glockenspiels. We will be learning the basic skills required to play this instrument in a variety of ways.

French

In French this year, the children will be building on conversational skills that they practised last year in Year 3. The children will also be completing various worksheets to support this as well as putting their developing French into practice by having basic conversations with each other in class, using the words they have learnt.

Homework

Spellings will be sent home on a Friday to practise for a spelling quiz the following Friday. Spelling lists will be available on class pages.

Reading books need to be brought into school every day and will be changed regularly. We encourage the children to read at least three times a week with an adult at home and reading records need to be signed by an adult for each time they have read.

Children are expected to access Times Table Rock Stars at least once a week (see the link on the class webpage). Please contact your child's class teacher if you have any concerns.

Optional personal learning challenges are encouraged for the children to present their learning in a creative manner at home which can then be shared with the class.

Additional Information

All children will take part in collective worship, assemblies and achievement assemblies on a weekly basis. Lower Key Stage 2 assemblies will take place on Monday mornings, with families of award winners invited to attend. If your child is receiving an award in the assembly, then you will be notified by text on the Friday before.

Thank you all for your support during your child's transition into Year 4 at Lowerhouse. Please communicate with school should you have any questions or concerns about your child's learning or any other issue. This can be done by contacting the school office by telephone or email (admin@lowerhouse.lancs.sch.uk) to arrange a telephone call with your child's class teacher.

Class webpages will be updated fortnightly to ensure that you are kept up to date with what is going on in school. Weekly newsletters are also added to the website each Monday.

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Please ensure that all photograph permission slips and contact detail information have been updated for the new academic year. These letters are on your child's class page on the school website.

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