



Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter

Reading

The reading focus this term will be recognising story structures. The children will learn to identify the categories of content including characters, setting, events, problem and resolution. The children will use story maps to support this.

VIPER Character Focus



This term we will be consolidating our knowledge of VIPERS by using a range of character focuses within texts

Summarise, Predict, Questioning, Infer, Retrieve and Explain.

Class Reader

Michael Morpurgo- Toro Toro

Author Focus

Mary Norton – The Borrowers



How you can support at home?

Please listen to your children read regularly. Discuss the meanings of sophisticated language you come across in the text. When reading with your child ask them a range of question types: Summarise, Predict, Questioning, Infer, Retrieve and Explain.

Writing

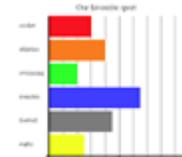
This term, the children will be using their topic 'Viva Espana' as a stimulus for their writing. The children will begin the term by exploring the story of 'Toro Toro' by Michael Morpurgo. From this, they will write a description of a setting using the knowledge of the text to make links with how the character is feeling in the Bull Ring. The children will also write a diary entry from the perspective of a Spanish Matador detailing the day in a life and the emotions experienced. Another big focus of our writing this term will be on non-fiction journalistic writing where children will experience taking part in their very own 'La Tomatina Festival'. Using this first-hand experience the children will use their skills to write a newspaper article reporting on the Spanish event. As a class, we will debate whether the controversial Spanish tradition of bullfighting is right or wrong. We will use this to create our own persuasive speeches, letters and balanced arguments.

The children will be able to apply a range of writing skills developed throughout the year. Within these tasks, they will continue to develop their grammar, punctuation and spelling skills, which they will ensure they will apply in other areas of the curriculum.



Mathematics

This term, the children will be developing their knowledge of decimals. The children will begin by making links with their previous learning in fractions. They will then apply their knowledge of decimals to support them when solving problems involving money. The children will make links with real life events based upon their topic 'Viva Espana' such as adding up the cost of a meal from a Spanish menu, as well as working out the costing of a holiday to Spain. The children will build on their problem solving skills using the four operations. Further on in the term, the children will learn to interpret and present discrete data using bar charts and collect and plot continuous data using line graphs. They will also solve comparison, sum and difference problems using information presented in bar charts, pictograms, tables and simple line graphs.



Vocabulary

Decimal, Place Value, Money, Pounds, Pence, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, Division, Lots of, Total Amount, Change, Left Over, Currency, Fractions, Expenditure,

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Creative Curriculum

Our topic this term is 'Viva Espana'. Where we will research and explore the European country – Spain. In Geography, the children will begin by locating Spain on a World map identifying seas, key cities and famous landmarks within Spain. They will compare and contrast Spain with the UK, and then find out more about the physical and human geography of the country, including the climate. The children will also find out about how tourism affects Spain. They will also conduct an in depth study on one of the cities within Spain.

Within Art and Design, the children will learn about great Spanish artists, architects and designers. Through exploring new and detailed art techniques by Antoni Gaudi, children will discover how to use and understand the techniques and processes used to create mosaic style art.

Within History, they will learn about The Spanish Armada and discuss how it was the most powerful naval fleet of its time. Also, the children will explore Spanish history and culture by looking in detail at historical festivals such as the La Tomatina Festival and the controversial sport of bull fighting.

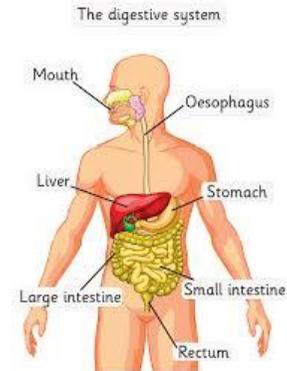


Vocabulary

Barcelona, Sagrada Familia, Antoni Gaudi, Architects, Continents, Spanish Armada, Culture, Traditions

Science

This term we will begin by looking at the topic Animals including humans. The children will start by describing the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans. They will do this through a range of engaging investigations. The children will then move on to identifying the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions, again this will be achieved through a range of creative investigations. Finally, as part of this topic the children will construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.



Vocabulary

Digestive system, intestine, oesophagus, stomach, rectum, molars, incisors, canines, pre-molars, bacteria, plague, predators, prey, producers, classify, consumer, carnivore, herbivore, omnivore.

Enrichment

Spanish Day- As part of our topic 'Viva Espana', we will host our own Spanish day where we will take part in a range of different activities such as making and tasting Spanish cuisine, learning the traditional Spanish dance the Flamenco and by taking part in our very own 'La Tomatina' festival.



Important Dates

- Tuesday and Friday- PE. Please could you ensure that the children bring the correct kit needed for both indoor and outdoor sessions.