



**BLACKBURN**

**MICHAELMAS TERM**

**YEAR 4 CURRICULUM**

### **ENGLISH**

In English this term, pupils will be looking at a series of Greek Myths and Traditional Tales. This will help them to understand how a character and setting can effectively be introduced within the opening of a story. This will lead to pupils composing a story in their Exciting Writing lesson based on their own story map. We will also cover the topic of report writing, mainly focusing on the language and organisational features of reports. This will aid pupils in the writing of their own report. In Reading Comprehension, the pupils will be looking at a variety of texts including story settings and non-fiction passages and answering questions related to these texts in full sentences. In their spelling work, the pupils will focus on particular word patterns each week and complete a spelling test every Friday. Punctuation and Grammar will cover adjectives, adverbials, paragraphs, inverted commas and fronted adverbials.

### **MATHEMATICS**

In Mathematics, pupils will develop their mathematical fluency by focusing on: number bonds to 100; adding and subtracting to the next 100; counting up to find the difference; adding several numbers, four-digit numbers, and adding and subtracting two and three-digit numbers; times tables; multiplication of a two-digit number by a one-digit number; fractions of amounts; telling the time, and finding time intervals; measuring using metres, centimetres and millimetres; column addition of three-digit numbers; expanded column subtraction; and doubling three-digit numbers. Along with the curriculum activities the pupils will complete Mental Mathematics tests and develop strategies to improve their skills in this area.

### **SCIENCE**

**Electricity:** During this topic, the pupils will discover what materials create the best electrical conductors and then use this information to make switches. The pupils will learn about simple circuits and draw them within their workbooks. Using the information learned about circuits, the pupils will then create a functional circuit including a lightbulb and a switch. The pupils will then demonstrate further understanding of circuits by developing ways to change a bulb's brightness. Famous scientists will also be researched. **Sound:** Pupils will learn that sounds are made when objects vibrate and that sounds travel through all states of matter. The pupils will investigate how well sound travels through different materials and they will discover how different instruments make sounds, including the study of pitch and loudness.

### **HISTORY**

**Romans:** Pupils will investigate why civilizations attempted to invade, and then subsequently invaded, Britain. They will also learn how the settlers influenced modern day life. Discussion will take place about present day Roman ruins and what the Romans introduced to the British Isles, for example their lifestyle, towns and infrastructure. They will also discover who Boudica was and the results of Boudica's revolt.

### **GEOGRAPHY**

In Geography, the pupils will head back in time to find out how the towns and cities of the UK first developed. Pupils will learn about the needs and requirements early settlers had when choosing a place to build a home. They will look at place names around the UK to see how the Anglo-Saxons, Romans and Vikings all left their mark. Through the use of digital and paper maps, pupils will investigate land use in different sized settlements and the ways in which settlements are linked together. By the end of the term, pupils will be able to draw together all their learning about settlements to design their own new settlement.



## **COMPUTING**

E-safety: The pupils will gain further understanding of passwords and e-security, and create rules for reporting dangers online. Using the program Scratch, they will write quizzes by combining questions. The unit also teaches pupils the wider programming skills of solving problems, testing, debugging, improving and evaluating.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

This term, pupils will learn about both Hinduism and Christianity. We will look at the teachings of God in Hinduism and how a Hindu family worship. We will also explore how Advent and Christmas are celebrated around the world with a study of global celebrations in Mexico, Poland and Norway.

## **DESIGN TECHNOLOGY**

Pupils will learn how textile containers, for example purses and wallets, are designed for different purposes and different users. They will design patterns/templates and join and reinforce fabrics. Pupils will identify design criteria and generate their own ideas. They will gain experience of dyeing techniques and embroidery skills.

## **ART**

Pupils will practise a range of artistic techniques from working with watercolour to creating abstract art by studying the work of British artists, including David Hockney, Paulo Rego, Lucien Freud and Sonia Boyce. These will serve as an inspiration for their own work. Pupils will create a key piece of work based on the landscape work of David Hockney.

## **MUSIC**

Pupils will develop their understanding of staff notation and continue to develop their keyboard skills. They will listen to, and recall, sounds to improve their memory. They will play and perform a piece on the glockenspiel as an ensemble. Pupils will learn new songs improving accuracy and expression, performing these at the Harvest Festival and the Christmas Concert.

## **PSHEE**

'Our Happy School': this term we will be looking at creating new ground rules with reference to established work from Year Three. We will cover: keeping ground rules, difficulties that could be encountered, managing ourselves, dealing with new situations, coping with sad/ scary situations and our responsibilities at school. In the second half of the term we will cover 'Out and About'. The focus of this is on solving problems and anger management, again both linked to communication skills. Finally we will look at staying safe, investigating bullying and being out and about during the darker nights and the winter months.

## **FRENCH**

In French, pupils will learn how to describe the weather and weather patterns using key phrases. They will also learn phrases linked to transport and the days of the week, including describing how they travel to school. Later on in the term, we will be looking at the currency used in France as well as starting to express likes and dislikes for various items.

## **PE, GAMES & SWIMMING**

In Swimming, the pupils will continue to improve their water confidence. They will develop their front crawl technique and further improve their streamlined body position in the water. In PE and Games, the pupils will study health-related fitness and the effects of exercise on their bodies. They will explore dance in small groups, looking at body shaping. In Games they will look at different invasion games and begin to understand the importance of attack and defence.

