



Fair Field Junior School

Watford Road, Radlett, Hertfordshire, WD7 8LU

01923 856341

Email: admin@fairfield.herts.sch.uk

www.fairfield.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Leggett

Assistant Head of School: Mrs O'Sullivan

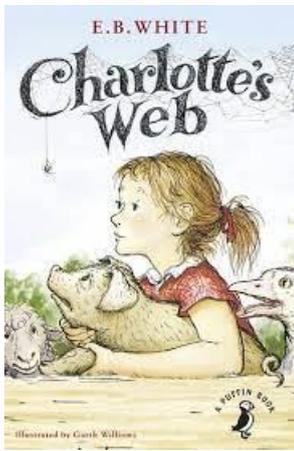
Wednesday 15th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to another exciting term of Year 4 at Fair Field. Please have a look at the new topics we will be learning about this term.

Below is a summary of this term's curriculum, forthcoming activities and homework timetable.

English



In English this term, we will be diving into two literature texts, using these texts to create various written tasks including and amongst others a play script, diary entry, setting description, character description, poetry and a narrative. Children will cover all aspects of the curriculum, including spoken language through various role-plays and performances. Children will emerge themselves whole-heartedly within the text being studied and this will form the basis for all our English tasks. Children will cover comprehension skills, grammar, long write, short write, spelling and handwriting within each week. The first unit of study will be Charlotte's Web. This classic novel for children, is the story a little girl who saves a pig on the family farm from being killed, and the pig's friendship with a spider who lives alongside him in a barn with the other farm animals. Their lives are woven into the cycle of the seasons and farm life.

In Spring 2, we will be looking at 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' by Onjali Q. Raúf. This book offers a child's perspective on the refugee crisis, and highlights the importance of friendship and kindness in a world that doesn't always make sense. We

place a strong emphasis on presentation, self-editing and improvement. Children will work weekly to practise their weekly spelling and handwriting. Throughout the units, the children will be exposed to a range of genres and opportunities to succeed.

Maths

In Maths, we will be securing Geometry concepts, focusing on Perimeter, Properties of lines, Shapes, Quadrilaterals and exploring Symmetry. Further topics include Decimal numbers and calculations, Measures including Money, Fractions - adding and subtracting; Fractions of quantities, Equivalent Fractions, ordering and comparing. We will continue to focus on our mental recall skills of Times tables throughout the term; as well as continue to put strong emphasis on developing Mental Arithmetic Skills, Problem Solving strategies and securing rapid recall of all or most of the times tables.

Science

In Science this half- term, we will be studying Electricity. Children will learn to identify common appliances that run on electricity, construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers. Throughout this topic, children will have opportunities to carry out investigations and experiments, make predictions and draw conclusions from their results. Pupils will have opportunities to work scientifically by: observing patterns, for example, that bulbs get brighter if more cells are added, that metals tend to be conductors of electricity, and that some materials can and some cannot be used to connect across a gap in a circuit.

During Spring 2, the focus will be on 'Living Things in their Habitats', recognising that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways, exploring and using classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment and recognising that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.



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Computing

The children will create programs by planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. They will use Logo, a text-based programming language. This unit is the first of the two programming units in Year 4 and looks at repetition and loops within programming.

History and Geography

During this half term, we will be focusing on History. Our History topic this half term is Local Roman History. The children will explore the Roman Invasion of Britain, looking at historical figures such as Julius Caesar, Nero and Boudicca. They will also look at the impact the Romans had on Britain, looking at St Albans, Watling Street, coins, calendars and languages. We will be looking at various sources to answer the question, 'How did the Romans change Britain?' We are hoping to include a day trip to St Albans Cathedral.

In the second half of the term, we will focus on Geography with the topic being Volcanos.

Art

In art, the children will be exploring the world of 'contemporary African recycled art' and studying the artists who transform waste into stunning pieces of art. The children will then have the opportunity to design and create their own pieces of art using recycled waste products.



Music

In Music, the children will be focusing on learning and singing the songs for the Year 4 performance.

RE

Our RE studies this term will focus on learning about Sikhism and Christianity looking at the teachings and beliefs within each faith. Exploring the signs of belonging, the importance and symbolism of food, special places, special festivals and the holy book of each of the faiths.

PSHE

In PSHE, this half term, we will be following the whole school focus of Dreams and Goals, using the Jigsaw curriculum. Children will identify some of their own hopes and dreams, learn how to deal with disappointment and learn the steps to take to achieve a goal.

In Spring 2, our topic changes to 'Healthy Me'. Throughout our PSHE studies, we will be concentrating on teamwork and our communication skills. PSHE provides the opportunity for expression and discussion, allowing a range of opportunities for the children to express themselves freely and safely.





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PE

PE will be on the following days:

Monday and Wednesday

The children in both classes will need to wear their kit to school on Mondays for Hockey lessons with the Elms Coach. In Hockey they will be learning to refine the skill of dribbling in order to keep control and possession of the ball.

As these lessons are outdoors we would recommend that children wear a layer underneath their tracksuit such as skins, vests, t-shirts.

On Wednesdays, they will have gymnastics lessons. It is important that your child has the correct kit for each lesson and comes to school in this kit on the correct days.

Homework

Homework will be set on **Thursdays** and will be due in the following **Tuesday**. Homework will alternate between Comprehension, Maths and Grammar along with spelling words (to be tested the following week).

Children should continue to log into their Times Table Rockstars account at least three times each week for at least 15 minutes a day to further develop their rapid recall of the Times Tables.

We ask that children read for at least 10 minutes every day with an adult, including talking about the book that they have read. Please write in your child's reading record both to encourage your child and for us to acknowledge the work being put in at home. The children's reading records are checked in school to ensure they are reading regularly and changing their books. We require at least two adult signatures in their reading records weekly. We encourage your child to communicate openly with us regarding their reading and when they need to change their books.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to discuss them with us.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Abrahams and Mrs. McCarthy

The Year 4 teachers