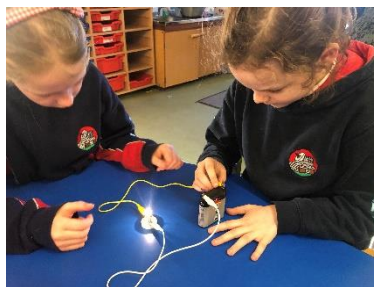


Class 4 Curriculum Update January 2023

January's Values: Tolerance and
fairness

February's Values: Gratitude and
hope



In Year 4, the children have begun exploring their new topic in Science, electricity. They started to explore using the electrical equipment to make the bulb light up in a circuit. The children have also been exploring what would happen if a different battery were to be used in the circuit and the effect on the bulb, whether it would be brighter or dimmer. The children have also learnt how electricity is created and sorted common appliances whether they are mains electricity, battery or both. The children also enjoyed exploring static electricity using a balloon on their hair to create a type of static electricity. When they rubbed a balloon on their head, electrons move from the atoms and molecules in their hair onto the balloon. Electrons have a negative charge, so the balloon becomes negatively charged, and their hair was left with a positive charge, much to their amusement.

At Forest School, the children were working on teambuilding activities. They demonstrated a lot of values in action, through co-operation, respect, trust, awareness, care, determination and resilience. It was a great way to begin our first session of the year.

In our maths, the children have been exploring multiplication and division looking at factors and multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100. The children will begin exploring multiplying and dividing a 2 and 3 digit number by a 1 digit number, moving towards a more formal method. Linked to our theme, the children have researched Tim Berners-Lee who founded the World Wide Web and the children are currently working on their latest double page spread. In art, the children are continuing to work on story telling through drawing, using charcoal, pencil, pens, erasers and brushes to illustrate each line in a poem considering the marks, lines and shape to create their imagery.

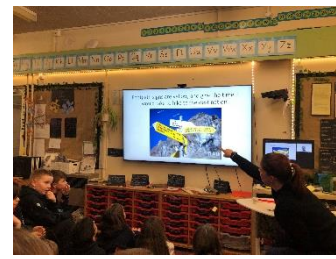
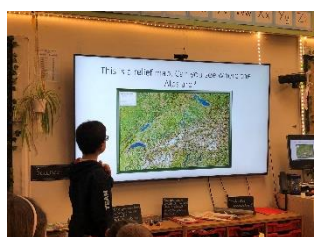


Reminders

PE days are Wednesdays and Fridays. Every Wednesday the children will have outdoor tag rugby sessions and are welcome to bring in boots from home to wear, however this isn't a necessity as they will wear wellies. On Fridays, PE is indoor. Children who wear earrings should have their own tape. The children should also have their reading record and book in school every day. Monday to Thursday counts as a read a day. Friday to Sunday counts as one read.

Mrs Chapman came into Year 4 linked to our Geography theme, 'Winter in Switzerland'. She lived and worked in Switzerland for over ten years as an outdoor instructor. She showed the children where Switzerland was and where the mountainous areas were on a map. She also shared how human influence has changed Switzerland's mountain geography and the way that people live has a consequence of the environment and how they have to adapt to the climate. The children asked lots of insightful questions to gain a better understanding of Switzerland has a place. Mrs Chapman is going back to Switzerland in the half term and will share some more photos when she comes back.

At Forest School, Year 4 have been working on their geographical skills of using a compass and a map of the Forest School site to plot their route on a walk, stopping to check the direction they are heading on the map. In their next session, they will work on their orienteering skills.

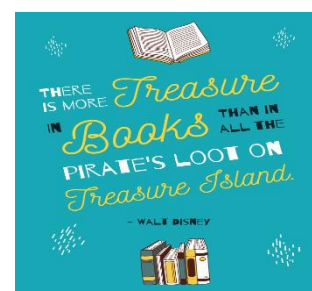


Dates for your diary

Parents' evening is on Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th February from 4 - 7 pm. You will be able to make appointments closer the time.

Homework is important for practising, applying and consolidating the learning skills the children develop in school. **Spelling Shed** and **TTRockstars** are the weekly homework. It is expected that the children go on every week. 2/3 games per day, Monday to Friday, is great as little and often is best. In the Spring Term, the children will be taking their times tables test, as part of a nationwide test and will answer the questions on a computer. They are expected to know up to 12 x 12, in under 5 seconds. We will be practising the time tables in school regularly as well. When they practice on TT Rockstars it will automatically follow onto the times tables that the children do not know as well and need to practice.

Reading. The expectation for reading in Year 4 is 15-20 minutes a day to an adult. The children should have their reading record and reading book in **every day**. When the children are listened to in school, the adults will write in purple pen. When you listen to them at home please write in their reading record, even if it is not a school book. The children continue to work on their comprehension skills weekly, linked to reading vipers.



If you have any questions or concerns, please email the office and I will get in touch with you as soon as I can. Mr Freeman and the Year 4 team.