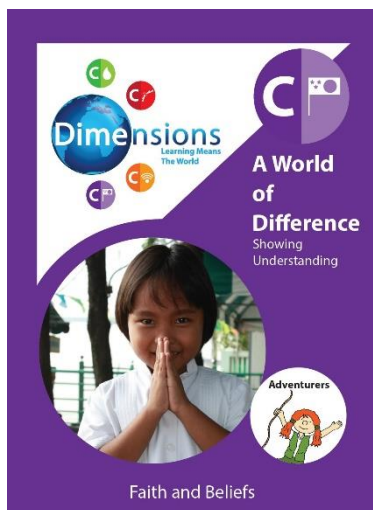


Class 4 Curriculum Update

October 2022

October's Values: Responsibility and resilience



Welcome to the first curriculum update of the Autumn Term and Year 4. Year 4's first theme, as part of our dimensions curriculum is a World of Difference, looking at faith and beliefs. It is based around world religions and we have already looked at the Buddhist faith and Christianity. Other faiths we will look at are Hinduism, Islam and Judaism, examining aspects such as places of worship, holy books, core beliefs and important festivals.

We began with a discussion about what faith actually is and what the children knew about Buddhism. They generated some questions that they wanted to investigate. In our work on Buddhism, we have discovered the origins of the Buddhist faith, which began in Nepal 2,500 years ago. We found out other countries around the world that Buddhism has spread to and used atlases to help us locate and label them on a world map. We found out that Buddhists worship in a temple. All temples have a Buddha statue, some candles and some incense as a shrine, within the temple or within their homes. The children took a virtual tour of one of the Buddhist temples on the computer. They have looked at two particular temples; the pagoda and the stupa and made comparison between the two. The children also looked at some sayings from the holy book for Buddhists, the Tripitaka and there have been many discussions about the different festivals that Buddhists have, and the rules Buddhists live by, with some interesting debate.

As a mathematician, we have been looking at the place value of 4 - digit numbers all the way up to 10,000, comparing, ordering and rounding these numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. Next we looking at addition and subtraction of 4 - digit numbers.

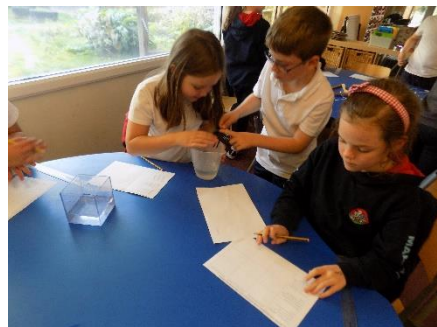
As an artist and designer we have been looking at the work of surface pattern designer Rachel Parker, and have practised using lines to create patterns and using a square tile to create a repeat pattern.

As a writer, we have been building up our vocabulary and language. The children are enjoying our daily word of the day and have been working on some prefixes in their spellings. The children are very good at finding the correct number of syllables in and word and have used this knowledge to create haiku poems linked to the natural world and Forest School.

I am really looking forward to working with all the children this year and getting to know them better and they have settled in well to the class routines and are taking their class responsibilities seriously.

Mr Freeman





Dates for your diary and reminders

Tuesday 11th October - Visit to Madley Church am

Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th October Parents' Evening

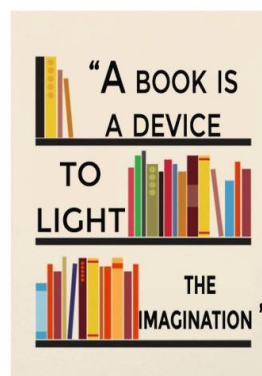
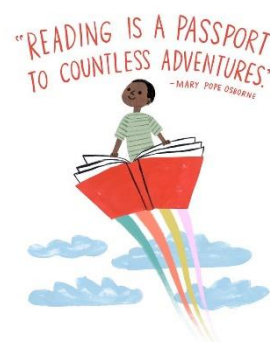
TBC A visit to Bristol, including to a Buddhist centre in November

Forest School sessions (every other Monday), although children need old, warm functional clothing every week. These can include hats and gloves.

PE sessions are Thursday and Friday. The children are working on their netball skills very Thursday with Luctonians coach Emma. All children with long hair should have a hair band in school, as they need to have their hair up for safety reasons.

Homework is important for practising, applying and consolidating the learning skills the children develop in school. **Spelling Shed** and **TTRockstars** (times tables practice) are again the main homework the children will do in Year 4, like in Year 3. The children's log ins remain the same from last year and are inside each child's reading record. 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.

Reading. The expectation for reading in Year 4 is 15-20 minutes a day to an adult. The children can now and 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 books, which they should have two at home, one from our reading scheme and the other is the children's free choice. It would be great to see the children achieve 40, 80, 120, 160 and even 200 reads this year. The children will continue to work on their comprehension skills weekly.



Encore Enterprise - Music lessons

The children have begun their music lessons this year with Mrs Sherwood, every Wednesday and are learning to play the toot. For those of you that ever played the recorder at school, the toot is a stepping-stone between this and the clarinet or flute. The children have made an encouraging beginning to learning the toot. Hopefully later this year the children will be able to perform for you all.

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 3 team.