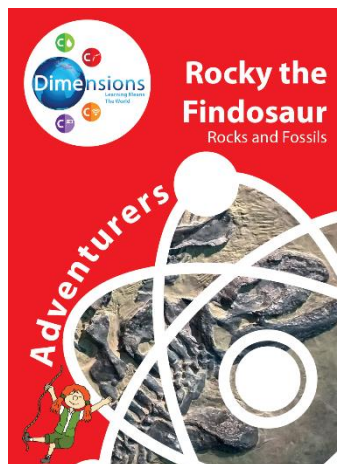


Class 4 Curriculum Update

November 2021

November's Values: Happiness and compassion

December's Values: Hope and determination



Year 4 have come to end of our 3 week mini theme, Rocky the Findosaur, linked to rocks and fossils. The children have looked into how fossils are formed over millions of years and researched the role of a palaeologist and the famous Mary Anning. They all produced an amazing double page spread, full of information and detail.

Previously, as part of remembrance, where the children demonstrated massive respect and awareness, the class used the clip a soldier's tale to produce a diary entry from the soldier's perspective. They thought so carefully, about how it would feel to experience some of the events and produced an amazing diary entry with illustrations. We have become big fans of the double page spread in Year 4 this year. Thank you to Mrs Lee for introducing them to us.

At Forest School, the children have made soil cocktails linked to this theme. The children had to get mixture of soil, stones, and bits of leaves, add it to water and put it in a jar and leave it in the classroom to settle. This has helped them to understand why soil is so important but also to observe the different layers of sediment, from the heavier stones and sand in the bottom to the leaves or bits of sticks floating at the top.

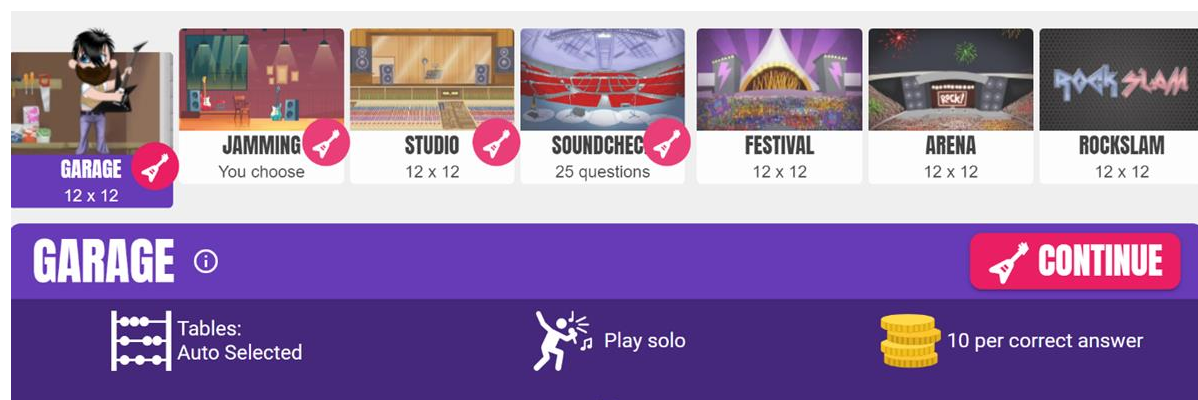
In maths, we have begun working on multiplication and division, looking at the effect of multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100 and multiplying by 1 and 0, as well as dividing by 1 and itself. In the next few weeks, we will be covering multiplication and division within the 3, 6, 9 and 7 times table. The children continue to improve during clarinet sessions and have learnt the E, F and G keys.

For the next 6 weeks, we will be doing our next theme, Lightning Speed, which is linked to the history and development of the internet and the World Wide Web, with a focus on computing. We will be looking at how computers communicate, the importance of networks, how email works and how the internet enables collaboration.

Finally, a huge thank you to all those that attended parents' evening. It was so great to see you all and share your child's learning. In addition, I hope you enjoyed looking through your child's books and could see the hard work the children have been putting in.



Homework is important for practising, applying and consolidating the learning skills the children develop in school. Spelling Shed and TTRockstars (times tables practice) are expected to be done daily and more than one game too. Unfortunately, a number of children are not completing their homework weekly. As an eco-school, we do not want to be sending sheets of work home. In addition, for TT Rockstars, the children need to use it regularly to improve their recall speed. They are expected to know up to 12×12 by the end of the spring term, this includes the inverse operation as well. So that is, 46 facts per times table. We have been practising the 2, 5, 10, 3 and 4 times tables in school regularly as well and through around the world, which the children love to play. We will also be practising the 6, 9 and 7 timetable in the coming weeks. If the children need their tables written down on paper while playing then that is fine. The set times table is always in the garage area, however it is also a good idea to practice in the studio and also do a sound check regularly.



Reading

A book can take us anywhere: to another city, to a different country, or even to an alternative world. Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures. We are listening to all children read 1:1 in school on different days, so it is important that the children have their reading record and book every day. It is your responsibility to read up to 15/20 minutes per day with your child. This is important so you can notice fluency and the use of punctuation. The children are having a weekly reading focus for their comprehension and have many opportunities to read in other areas of the curriculum.



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.