Half Termly Topic Overview for Parents and Carers

Year 4 | Half Term 2 | Topic: Sound aloud

This half term we will be learning the following things. Here are also some useful hints and tips for helping at home!

	At School	At Home
English	In English, Year 4 pupils will engage in different types of writing such as narrative, persuasion and explanation. Books such as George's Marvellous Medicine, The Butterfly Lion, The Little Christmas Elf and A River, will support their learning. Daily spelling lessons will help children to learn new spelling patterns, including different suffixes and prefixes. Handwriting lessons will encourage children to join their writing, sizing and spacing letters correctly whilst writing with increasing speed. Children will keep progressing towards joining up most of their words. Your child will take part in several weekly reading sessions to develop fluency and comprehension.	• Aim to hear your child read at least three times a week. • Practice spellings to support writing, reading and spelling tests. • Practice handwriting – particularly joining letters consistently.
Maths	In Maths, the class will continue learning about place value, particularly furthering their knowledge when rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. Before Christmas, they will move onto perimeter and complete their first summative assessment. In counting lessons, children will start to revisit timestables. Those already confident will be given the opportunity to stretch their knowledge.	• Practice set timestables on TTRS twice a week and/or practice in children's counting book.
Science	In Science, pupils will be investigating the topic of "Sound" by understanding how is caused by vibrations, how it travels to the ear and distinguishing between volume and pitch. The famous scientist being focused on is Alexander Graham Bell.	• Test pitch using a straw. The shorter the straw, the higher the pitch.
Art	In Art, the children are learning about effective drawing. They will explore how different moods can be represented and they will use different tones and scales for effect.	• Get creative at home by drawing or painting.
History	In History, the children will continue to learn about the Romans. The focus will shift from invasion to cultural influences on Britain.	• Talk about the Romans at home – how did they influence modern day Britain?

PE	In PE, we will be focusing on handball and tag rugby. We will engage in warm ups, skill acquisition, application and cool downs. They will be fun, progressive and inclusive sessions building on learning from previous years.	• Encourage your child to take part in daily physical exercise. • Remember to wear PE kit – trainers, jogging bottoms/shorts and white polo. Earrings need to be taken out or covered.
RE	In RE, pupils will be answering the question "Why do some people think that life is a journey and what significant experiences mark this?"	• Discuss key milestones in yours and your children's lives and how this has made you the person you are today.
Latin	In Latin, the children will learn numerals. This will also touch upon links to Ancient Greece, establishing cross-curricular links with History.	• Ask children which new Latin words they have learnt that week.
Computer Science and IT	The children will learn about how to create media, particularly in the form of audio clips. They will recognise what makes a high quality clip;	
Online Safety	This half term, the children will learn about appropriate online relationships and recognising stranger danger.	• Talk to your child about who they speak to online.
Personal, Social and Health Education	In PSHE, your child will look at the topic 'Living in Our World'. Anti-Bullying Week will also be addressed to ensure children feel safe and respected in and out of school.	• Discuss what healthy friendships look and feel like.
Virtue	Within school we have 6 virtues: fairness, kindness, bravery, respect, coolness and stickability which are all interwoven through our curriculum and, policies and every day practice. Our virtue for this half term is respect.	• Discuss what looks like in day to day scenarios.