

## English

This term, the children will be reading *The Firework-Maker's Daughter* by Philip Pullman. During their guided reading sessions, we will be continuing to develop their comprehension skills to answer questions based on this text, exploring retrieval and inference questions, and justifying their answers using evidence from the text. We will also be continuing to explore the author's use of vocabulary, researching definitions and synonyms for chosen words, to use in their writing pieces.

For the first English unit of this term, the children will be inspired by their guided reading text, *The Firework Makers Daughter*, as well as the narrative, *When the Mountains Roared* by Jess Butterworth to create their very own Mountainous journey narrative. Children will be encouraged to think about author's choice of vocabulary to describe and entertain. They will look at literary descriptive examples such as metaphors, similes and personification as revisit fronted adverbials, sentence structure and clauses to vary their writing. The final intended outcome will be a narrative to describe a mountainous journey of their own.

For our second English unit, we will explore a wide range of poems and discover how poets use language to create images, emotions, and rhythms. Throughout the unit, the class will read, discuss, and perform different styles of poetry, learning key features such as rhyme, repetition, alliteration, and similes. Children will also have the opportunity to write their own poems, experimenting with vocabulary and structure to express their ideas creatively.

Please continue to read the Accelerated Reader books and do the quizzes. We will monitor this weekly. Library day is Wednesday.

## Spellings

In spellings, children will continue to practice their year 3 and 4 common exception words. They will learn spelling rules including homophones such as 'whether' and 'weather', explore the morphology of the suffix 'ous' and look at the ending spelt '-tious' such as 'completion'.



# Alder Grove

Church of England Primary School

## Spring 2 - Year 4



## PSHE - Healthy Me

In this fourth unit, children will explore friendships and peer pressure, and the effects substances, such as smoking and alcohol, can have on our health. In the first lesson, we will look at how we form friendships and the value in the different friendships we have. This will lead us into discussing the roles of leaders and followers in different relationships and how we can manage tricky situations, before finally discussing the impact of the choices we can make, both positive and negative.

## Maths:



### Fractions

This unit introduces the concept of mixed numbers and improper fractions. Children will explore what happens when a fraction is more than 1 (that is, the numerator is greater than the denominator). They will use this to write, compare and order mixed numbers and will then look at how mixed numbers can be written as improper fractions and vice versa. Children will then move on to equivalent fractions using fraction strips and a fraction wall to aid understanding of fraction families. Following this, children will further develop their understanding of how to simplify fractions.

### Length and Perimeter

This unit develops children's knowledge of units of measurement by introducing the kilometre and using its equivalence to express distances in kilometres and metres. Children will then be introduced to the concept of perimeter as the distance around a 2D shape. They will begin by considering squares and rectangles drawn on squared paper and then progress to work with rectilinear shapes where the side measurements are labelled.

In term 4, children will continue to practice times tables already taught: 2, 5, 10, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 7.

They will learn the 9 and 12 times tables. Please help your child learn these facts at home in conjunction with other times tables already taught. You can use doodle tables to support.



## PE - Yoga

Children will learn about mindfulness and body awareness. They will learn yoga poses and techniques that will help them to connect their mind and body. The unit looks to improve wellbeing by building strength, flexibility and balance. The learning includes breathing and meditation. Children will work independently and with others to create their own yoga flows.

## PE - Hockey

In this unit, children develop their understanding of the attacking and defending principles of invasion games. Children will have to think about how they use skills, strategies and tactics to outwit the opposition. In hockey, children will do this by maintaining possessions and moving the ball towards goal to score. They will develop their understanding of the importance of fair play and honesty, while self-managing games and learning and abiding by key rules, as well as evaluating their own and others performances.

## RE - Who was Jesus?

Children will explore the life, teachings, and significance of Jesus. It introduces key vocabulary such as Messiah, parables, disciples, resurrection, and gospel, helping the pupils understand how Jesus is viewed within Christianity and his impact on history. The pupils will also learn about his teachings, the stories told about him, and how his influence continues in religious and cultural traditions today.

## D.T - Fastenings

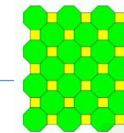
Children will explore different types of fastenings and their practical applications in textiles. It introduces key vocabulary, such as fastening, fabric, running-stitch, template, and prototype, helping the pupils understand how to securely join materials together using buttons, zips, Velcro, press studs, and buckles. The pupils will also learn about design criteria and evaluation to assess the success of their textile products. It is perfect for consolidating essential knowledge and fostering creativity by allowing the pupils to design and make a functional book sleeve.



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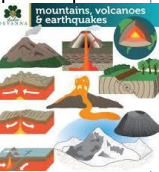
## Computing - We are artists

In this unit, children will explore and create pieces of geometric art and a Scratch computer program for drawing shapes. They will use programmes such as Inkscape to create complex tessellation inspired by Bridget Riley's late works. Using Scratch, children will also they create Islamic-style art using repeating patterns. In this unit, children will learn to develop an appreciation of the links between geometry and art while becoming familiar with the tools and techniques of a vector graphics package.



## Geography - Mountains, Volcanoes and Earthquakes

In this unit, children will be focusing on Mount Everest; looking at its structure and its location. Broadening this knowledge, they will study the highest peaks within each continent and the largest mountain ranges in the world. Using their geographical skills of map and data reading, they will locate and learn about the climate of areas where mountains and volcanoes lie, and how the Earth's structure can cause earth



## Science - Electricity

In this unit, children will be learning about electricity. We will first explore the different sources of electricity and how we use appliances in our everyday life. The children will be learning practically how a circuit works by building their own, working scientifically to investigate the need for different components within a simple circuit. Finally, the children will look into different conductors and insulators of electricity and the properties of each which make it so before being given the opportunity to share their knowledge with younger children, explaining to them how to be safe with electricity.

