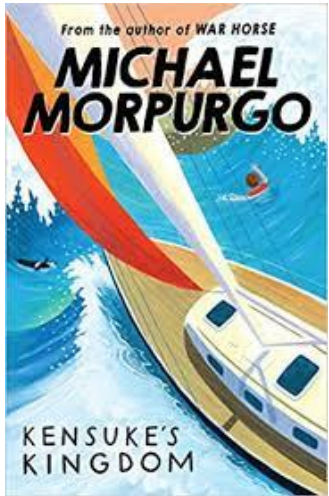




THE WILLOWS
PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

YEAR 4
SPRING TERM



For the first half of the Spring term we will be reading *Kensuke's Kingdom* by Michael Morpurgo. This thrilling adventure will keep children on the edge of their seats!

Reading:

During every reading lesson, children will read some of our key text. Sometimes they will read aloud, sometimes in their heads and sometimes they will listen to their teacher reading! They will then discuss what they have read and the new vocabulary they have encountered before moving on to working on their comprehension skills. During the Spring term, we will move on to focussing on other skills – such as summarising, making predictions and developing an understanding of the vocabulary used by authors.

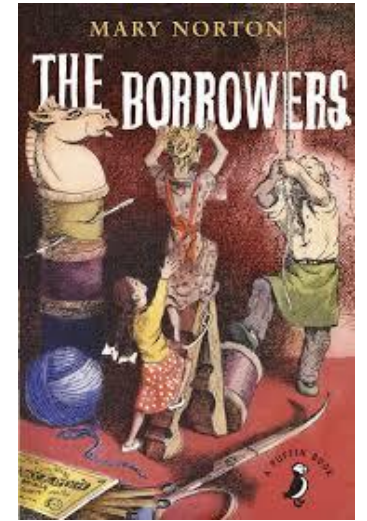
ENGLISH

Writing:

During the Spring term, children will be writing:

- Fantasy stories
- A non-chronological report
- A discussion text
- Poetry
- A story in a familiar setting
- Instructions

For the rest of the Spring term, our focus text will be *The Borrowers* by Mary Norton. Maybe these tiny people are to blame for those missing socks?



You can help support our English learning by reading with children as often as possible at home and supporting them with their homework.



MATHS

How do we plan?

We use The White Rose Maths Scheme of Learning alongside other material.

Overview

- Number: Multiplication and Division
- Area
- Number: Fractions
- Number: Decimals

Assessment

The children will sit a termly test in arithmetic and reasoning. This will inform future planning and teaching.



How can you help?

Please encourage your child to learn their times tables and associated division facts.

For example:

$$3 \times 8 = ? \quad 8 \times 3 = ?$$

$$24 \div 8 = ? \quad 24 \div 3 = ?$$

Children will sit the multiplication tables check in June 2022 in which their knowledge of the times tables up to 12×12 will be tested.

In school, we will be teaching times tables in a number of ways, including through songs. There are lots of excellent, catchy tunes on YouTube which could help – if you find any you particularly love, please let us know!

Why not visit these websites at home:

www.myminimaths.co.uk

<https://ec1.educationcity.com/>

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/>



It would also be helpful if you could encourage your child to tell the time on digital and analogue clocks and use the four operations (+, -, x and \div) in everyday contexts such as shopping and cooking.

SCIENCE



Benjamin Franklin

Electricity:

- ❖ Identifying common appliances that run on electricity.
- ❖ Using circuit equipment, construct a simple circuit including cells, wires switches and buzzers.
- ❖ identifying whether or not a lamp will light in a simple series circuit, based on whether or not the lamp is part of a complete loop with a battery.
- ❖ Recognising that a switch opens and closes a circuit and associate this with whether or not a lamp lights in a simple series circuit.
- ❖ Recognising some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.



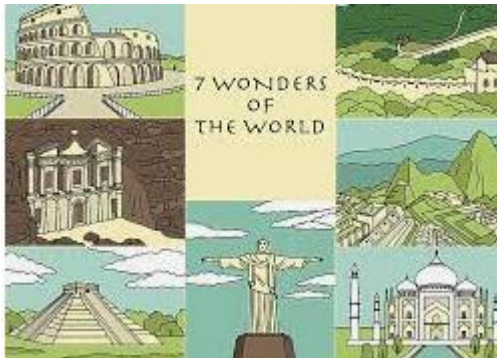
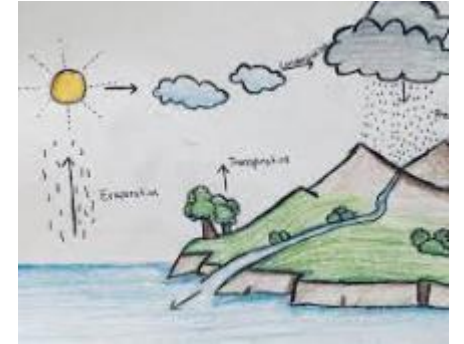
How can you help?

- *Discuss electricity at home and name some items around the house which use it.
- *When turning lights on and off, discuss what the switch is doing.
- *When cooking, talk about why we would use wooden spoons rather than metal spoons to stir.

GEOGRAPHY

Rivers Deep, Mountains High, Stormy Seas:

In the first half of the Spring Term, we will be learning about physical features of our world. Children will look at the features of rivers, mountains and seas involving the water cycle and tectonic plates. We will be looking at locations across the globe including the significance of longitude, latitude and the equator.



The Wonders of the World:

Children will move on to learning about where the Wonders of the World are situated, developing their map skills. We will question why they are classed as the Wonders of the World and look at both the physical and the human geography of these famous locations.

How can you help?

- *Look at maps to identify rivers, mountains and seas.
- *Look at images of Earth and locate the equator.
- *Research the Wonders of the World and make notes of facts about them.

ART

In Art, we will be working with fabric and printing as part of our learning about textiles. Children will be given a chance to explore ways of working with different materials and we will explore how different materials are used in different locations around the world.



DT

Linked to our Art, we will be learning the basics of sewing during the first half term, before moving on to a unit of work on cookery!



LEAN ON ME

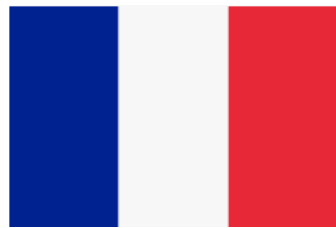
MUSIC

In Music, we are focussing on Stop and Lean On Me. We are studying rhythm, repetition and pitch to create unique musical performances. The lessons will provide an understanding of a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians.



PE

In PE, we will be developing our skills in football and gymnastics in the first half of the term, then moving on to learning to play tag rugby and improving our fitness.



FRENCH

We will be learning how to speak basic phrases in French, including phrases about where we live.

RE

In RE, we will be learning about the beliefs and practices in Sikhism and the moral code by which people live their lives. This also supports our British values and school values.



PSHE



In PSHE, we will be learning about healthy lifestyles and how to develop our individual roles as citizens.

WAT TYLER COUNTRY PARK



Children will have an opportunity to visit Wat Tyler Country Park in Basildon to study how rivers are formed which will support their topic.

This trip will develop children's understanding in an enjoyable, real life context.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Reading:

- ❖ Children will have a reading book (based on their colour band) and a library book – both of which can be read at home.
- ❖ Please read aloud with children as much as possible and write in their reading records when you have done this!

Homework:

- ❖ Homework will be set on Purple Mash and Spelling Shed.
- ❖ Please encourage children to complete their homework and learn their spellings at home throughout the week.

Times Tables:

- ❖ It is a national expectation that all children know their times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of year 4. Please work on learning the times tables and associated division facts at home!

PE:

- ❖ PE takes place on Tuesdays and Fridays. Please ensure children have full kit in school so they can participate in PE lessons (which are part of the curriculum).
- ❖ Children will not be allowed to wear any jewellery for PE, including earrings.

Let us know what you think!

If you have any suggestions or any ways in which you could support with our curriculum, please contact your child's teacher through Class Charts.

For a full list of school dates and events, please check the school newsletter or look on our school [website](#).