



January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school after the new year! We hope you had a wonderful break away from school and are excited to start our new projects. There have been a couple of changes regarding reading including the reading journals which your children are being taught in school and briefly outlined below. Thank you so much for your help so far and contributions to your children's learning. At Trent, we recognise that your child's success is often attributed to tremendous commitment from the whole family team, so thank you for your continued support. This letter is for your information, outlining the learning taking place in Year 4 this term.

Throughout the Spring Term, we will be covering the following:

Subject	Learning taking place at school	Links to previous learning to use as discussion points at home	Additional ideas to support your child at home
English	We are continuing to use high quality texts to feed into our Guided Reading and texts for our English lessons as well. We will be linking a number of books with our first project, <i>Anglo Saxons</i> . These texts include	The children have previously covered a range of writing styles at Trent. Therefore, they will be able to build on their narrative styles to create historical	Discuss the current topic with your child, and ask them what they have been learning in English. We would encourage children to use dictionaries and thesauruses at home to expand and understand the vocabulary they are using. One of the most important things for children to do is ensure they are regularly reading. Please support your child in reading by

	<p>a collection of <i>Anglo Saxon non-fiction texts</i> and <i>Beowulf</i> extracts by <i>Michael Morpurgo</i>. We will cover a range of different writing genres including historical narratives, biographies, poetry and adverts.</p> <p>After half term, we will continue to use high quality texts, to continue to inspire the children. These include: <i>Journey to the Last River</i> by <i>Unknown Adventurer</i> and <i>Teddy Keen</i>, <i>Raging Rivers</i> by <i>Anita Ganeri</i>, <i>Earth Heroes</i> by <i>Lily Dyu</i> and <i>Amy Blackwell</i> and a range of poems. <i>Through</i> these texts, the children will be able to develop their understanding of rivers and some influential people who have helped to protect the planet. We will cover a range of different writing styles including: poetry, dilemma stories,</p>	<p>narratives. They have also experienced writing diary entries and poetry, which will support them this year in their writing.</p> <p>Much of the punctuation that the children have learnt already will be relevant to Year 4. We will be building on their understanding of punctuation and looking to include a range of effective punctuation within their writing. Additionally, much of the terminology used in Year 4 is relevant to their prior learning including word classes and fronted adverbials.</p>	<p>encouraging them to complete their activities and signing their reading journals after they have read for 15 minutes.</p> <p>You may wish to explore different areas of Literacy through this link: https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/subjects/zv48q6f</p>
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	<p>biographies and letter writing.</p> <p>During the Spring term, we will be developing Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, which will build on their prior learning and extend to near learning. We will continue to look at strategies and skills required when learning how to spell and how to apply these in our writing. This term we will be continuing to practice our spellings through our Go Grapheme Grafters activities as well as learning about irregular and exception words. We will also be learning about prefixes and suffixes throughout this term. During this half term, we will be using our dictionary and thesaurus skills to understand words.</p> <p>Throughout this term we will be continuing to build</p>		
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	<p>on the children's grammar terminology including: word classes (nouns, adverbs, adjectives and prepositions); expanded noun phrases; conjunctions (subordinating and coordinating); and fronted adverbials.</p>		
<p>Maths</p>	<p>We are continuing with White Rose Maths this half term. We will be covering multiplication and division where the children will learn their 11 times tables, twelve times tables, multiplying 3 numbers, factor pairs, written method of multiplication and division. We will also be teaching area, fractions, decimals and money.</p> <p>Additionally, we will be focusing on our times tables throughout the term in preparation for the Year 4 multiplication check. The expectation is that by</p>	<p>The children have learnt times tables in previous year groups and we have taught strategies to learn their 6, 7 and 9 times tables in this academic year as well as reviewed some of their prior times tables facts. This should help them when learning about multiplying 3 numbers. In Year 3, the children would have learnt about multiplying in a formal written method.</p>	<p>Maths will be set regularly as part of the children's home learning. This will reflect what has been taught in school, the children will benefit from discussing areas in Maths that are included at home. We would also encourage regularly checking both digital and analogue times with your child as this is an area that children often find challenging. The more exposure they get to telling the time will benefit them hugely.</p> <p>We would encourage the children to regularly practice their multiplication tables in order to support their recall. There are a number of great songs on Youtube and BBC Supermovers which can be used to help teach the children their times tables.</p> <p>Please ensure your child has all the necessary mathematical equipment in their pencil cases (pencil, sharpener and ruler).</p> <p>There are some fantastic Maths activities on the following links that you might wish to use to re-enforce any learning: https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/ordering-and-sequencing-numbers https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/topics/zpdwxnb</p>

	<p>the end of Year 4 children should be confident with their times tables up to 12 x 12.</p>	<p>We will also build on our prior learning of area from Autumn term. Additionally, we will build on the children's prior learning of fractions and money.</p>	<p>Here is a link to a Multiplication Check which is similar to the one they will sit later in the year: https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check</p> <p>Alternatively, the Sound Check space on Times Tables Rockstars can be used to build their pace.</p> <p>Please note that the time tables which are taught in Year 4 are the 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12 times tables. Therefore, all other tables (2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables) should have been learnt in earlier year groups.</p>
<p>Science</p>	<p>For the first half term, we will be learning about Habitats and Living Things. The children will learn how living things can be grouped and will explore how to use classification keys. We will also be teaching the children about some of the environmental dangers that are posed to living things.</p> <p>After half term, we will be learning States of Matter. The children will learn to identify and classify the different states of matter.</p>	<p>The children have been developing their understanding of working scientifically throughout their time at Trent.</p> <p>In Year 2 and Year 3 children learn about different animals. In particular Year 3's predator project taught the children about some of the features of living things.</p>	<p>For additional reading for children about Habitats and Living things: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zn22pv4</p> <p>For additional reading about States of Matter, please follow the following link: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkkg87h</p>

	<p>They will also learn about the properties of solids, liquids and gases. The children will also learn to use data loggers to record changes in temperature over time. We will also teach the children about melting, freezing, evaporation and condensation.</p>	<p>Previously, the children have learnt about materials and the properties that they have. The children will build on this understanding to learn about the States of Matter.</p>	
<p>Religious Education</p>	<p>For the first half term, we will be learning about Sikhism in order to understand what other people may believe. Through this unit, the children will learn about Guru Nanak, the Guru Granth Sahib, equality, Sikh wedding and Guru Arjun Dev.</p> <p>After half term, the children will learn about whether fame and the Christian faith go together as well as Holy Communion. Through this term, the children will learn</p>	<p>Children will have a good prior understanding of Christianity from studying Christianity in previous years.</p>	<p>For additional information on Sikhism, please follow this link: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zsjpyrd</p>

	about the significance of the body and blood of Christ and how Holy Communion influences a Christian's day to day life.		
Relationships and Health Education (RHE)	<p>This term we will be exploring Friendships and Inclusion. This will involve the children learning about different people and how friendships may evolve over time. We will also be learning about how to protect ourselves online.</p> <p>We will also cover a unit on Living in the Wider Local Community. This will involve learning about the different contributions that people and groups make to the community. The children will also learn about the ways that they can help protect the environment both at home and in school.</p>	<p>At Trent, we encourage children to explore friendships and the various roles we play to build harmonious relationships. The children will be able to build on their own personal experiences in order to develop them later.</p> <p>The children have learn about habitats and the importance of protecting these areas in order to help the planet. The children will be able to build on this during this unit.</p>	<p>Encourage your children to discuss their relationships at home and at school and what the strengths are within them. We would also encourage discussions with your children about what they value in their friendships and that there are different kinds of friendships.</p> <p>It would be fantastic if you could talk to your children about the environment and how we can do our part to protect the planet.</p>
Project	As part of History this term, the children will learn	In History, the children will be able to	For more information on the Anglo Saxons, please follow this link:

<p>(history, geography, art and design, computing, design and technology)</p>	<p>about what the Romans left Britain, who the Anglo-Saxons were and how they lives. They will also learn about the Sutton Hoo and will compare the previous areas of history they have learnt about this year.</p> <p>Geography this term will involve learning about rivers and the features of rivers. The children will also learn about the Water Cycle. The children will also learn about the physical features of Britain.</p> <p>As part of Art the children will learn about digital photography which ties into our Computing unit. The children will learn to edit and take digital art. The children will also build on their understanding of how to create texture in their artwork.</p> <p>As part of design and technology the children will</p>	<p>build on their understanding of the Romans and the Celts to understand where the Anglo Saxon's place in history.</p> <p>In Geography, we have discussed physical features in England and Italy including rivers.</p> <p>We have spent time learning about texture in Autumn term and will continue to build on this.</p> <p>The children have had good experience</p>	<p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm</p> <p>For more information on rivers and the water cycle, please follow this link:</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkkg87h/articles/z3wpp39</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z849q6f/articles/z7w8pg8</p>
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	<p>be constructing shields and helmets in the style of Anglo Saxons.</p> <p>As part of Computing, the children will be learning about Handling data and how we can use data loggers to record and analyse data.</p>	<p>designing things this year and will be able to build on their prior learning this term.</p> <p>We have collected data and used data loggers previously in Autumn term. The children will be able to build on their learning in order to collect different data and analyse it in new ways.</p>	
Physical Exercise	<p>Children will have two weekly PE sessions taught by Non Stop Action.</p> <p>Indoor PE will be a Dance Genres unit and outdoor PE will be Hockey.</p>	<p>PE will build on their prior experience of PE at Trent.</p>	<p>Please support your child in remembering the days that they have PE and need to wear their PE kits to school.</p>
Music	<p>Year 4 will have weekly music lessons taught by Mrs Ordon.</p> <p>This term in music, we will be creating music using keyboards and percussion instruments to fit with film</p>	<p>Mrs Ordon aims to build on the pupil's prior experience of rhythm and music.</p>	<p>When listening to music ask children if they can describe what they can hear and some of the instruments involved.</p>

	clips. We will focus on a range of musical elements to help us compose our pieces including dynamics, tempo and timbre. We will also investigate a range of ways to notate our pieces.		
French	<p>The children will receive a specialist French lesson each week. Madame Keneally will be starting a new French scheme of work. The children will be learning about members of the family, vowels and pet vocabulary before half term.</p> <p>After half term, the children will be learning about Easter traditions, Dictionary skills, past tense and their likes and dislikes.</p>	Madame Keneally will build on the children's prior learning in French.	You can support your child by discussing lessons or topics, and encouraging additional personal research or practice.

PE

Year 4 will have PE on Tuesdays and Fridays. Children need to wear full Trent PE kit to school on these days. As we aim for lessons to be outdoors as often as possible, we recommend that children wear their outdoor PE kit (green jogging bottoms, Trent PE top, green jumper). We ask that your child wears either black or white trainers. We recommend providing your child with a spare pair of plimsolls for them to keep in

school in case they need to change their shoes during the school day due to the weather. Children are not allowed to wear jewelry during PE lessons (excluding a small stud in each ear). Children are not permitted to wear any jewelry (including earrings) during swimming lessons.

Homework

We will be continuing to use Google Classrooms for home learning. Homework will be set on Google Classroom on Fridays and will usually consist of:

- *A piece of Maths
- *A piece of English
- *A spelling activity
- * A piece of science or project learning

Homework is due in by Wednesday. Please encourage your child to get into the routine of 'handing in' their homework on time (by ensuring they click the 'hand in' button). If your child needs any help regarding their homework, they must come and see us before the Wednesday deadline so we can support them.

Reading

Your child will continue to benefit from group and whole class guided reading at school. However, the expectations for speed and accuracy in reading in Year 4 increase from Year 3. Please make sure your child reads every night for 15 minutes. Currently, your child has a reading journal, which should be signed every day by an adult at home. If they don't complete their reading activity at least five times in the week we will contact the child's parents.

Equipment

Thank you for stocking up on your children's stationery over the holidays. The children have already shown responsibility in looking after their own equipment, however if items need replacing, we would be grateful if you could support us in this. The items your child will need are: a clear pencil case, a pencil, a blue non-erasable writing pen (no biros please), a ruler, a sharpener, a glue stick, a purple pen and a whiteboard pen.

Please check with your child on a regular basis if they need any new items. We recommend that your child always has two pens and two pencils in their pencil case.

Please provide your child with a water bottle every day and a healthy fruit snack to eat during morning break time.

Behaviour Policy

The Behaviour Policy has been clearly explained to all the children across the school. They understand the standard of behaviour expected of them and are responding positively. At Trent, we encourage and recognise positive behaviour by rewarding children who do well in a variety of ways.

Messages

Unfortunately, we are unable to accept physical letters or messages at the start or end of the day. However, if you still have a message you need to get to us, please pass it on through the Office.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 3rd February 2022: Anglo Saxon Day

14th – 18th February 2022: Half Term

Thursday 24th February – Friday 25th February 2022: Cuffley Camp

Friday 4th March 2022 – Year 4 Class Assembly

Friday 18th March 2022 – School Closed for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

4th – 18th April 2022 – Easter Holidays

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Best wishes,

Miss Holmes, Mrs Balducci and Miss Kirkham