

Dear Year 4 children and parents

Welcome back. For this half-term our topic is called 'Escape From Pompeii'. Although driven by a geography unit on volcanoes, we also have the opportunity to take a peak ahead into our summer two topic of The Romans.

Dates for your diary

May Day Bank Holiday (School Closure) **Monday 4th May.**

School closes for the Whitsun holiday. **Friday 22nd May.**

School reopens **Monday 8th June.**

Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) Week beginning **8th June.**

Hadrian's Wall Residential Trip **Wednesday 8th July to Friday 10th July**

Art / Design Technology

The children will be looking at the work of a contemporary artist and book illustrator Christina Balit. She illustrated 'Escape From Pompeii' and the children will try and emulate her style of printing and collage to create a volcano picture of their own.

Spanish

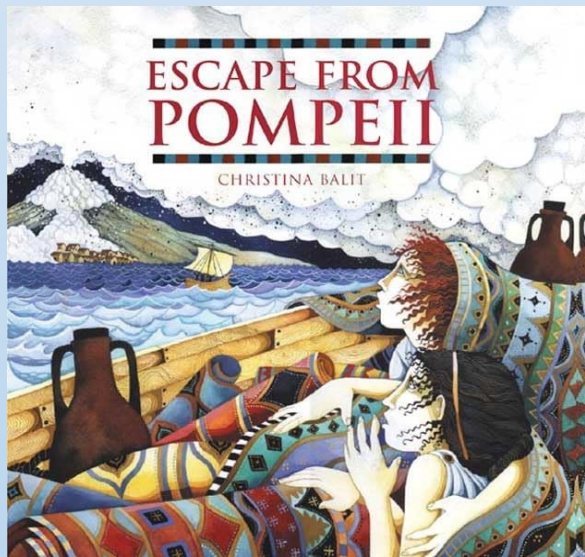
Children will learn to tell the time to the nearest hour, half and quarter. They will talk about their routines at home and at school and express likes and dislikes about subjects and activities.

Computing

This term's unit teaches children to explore the different elements of music, experiment with beats, and compose engaging music using the Purple Mash tool, Busy Beats

Science

The children will be taught the Y4 unit, 'sound' this term. They will understand that sounds are created when an object vibrates. They will investigate how changing the components in a string telephone affects its efficiency and finally plan an investigation to insulate the sound created by a small alarm clock.



Personal, Social, Relationship and Health

Children will understand how various factors contribute to a healthy balanced lifestyle. They will also consider what it means to be physically healthy and look at symptoms associated with common ailments.

Next term (summer 2), Y4 children will be taught a unit that will introduce them to the physical and emotional changes associated with puberty. You will receive more information about this before the end of term.

Mathematics

In mathematics we will complete our work on fractions and decimals from last term. In shape and space we want the children to both measure and calculate the perimeter and area of rectilinear shapes. They will recognise reflective symmetry and angles bigger and smaller than a right angle. We will also explore the link between fractions (tenths and hundredths) and decimals. Remember that your child has access to Times Table Rock Stars at school and at home on any internet enabled device.

English

In English the focus will be on diary writing. We plan to use the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and the destruction of the Roman Town of Pompeii as a backdrop to a young person's diary.

Weekly spellings will continue so please remember those yellow test books each Tuesday. There is usually a spelling 2Do to complete on PurpleMash now accompanied by Spellzone activities linked to our weekly list.

Geography

An exciting topic on volcanoes should capture the children's interest this half term. We hope that they will understand why volcanic activity and earthquakes are concentrated at the margins of The Earth's tectonic plates.

They will understand how The Earth is made of different layers and that the molten magma that lies beneath the crust may emerge violently from a volcano. Finally they will consider why some people may continue to live close to volcanoes despite the danger.