

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?	
English	<p>Fiction: King Midas</p> <p>Your child will be learning to retell the story of <i>King Midas</i>. They will be using this as a stimulus to examine and compose a wishing tale. The children will recap upon story structure, and we will be focussing on grammar including correctly punctuated speech and co-ordinating conjunctions.</p> <p>Non-fiction: This term we will be comparing two cities in differing geographical locations. We will be thinking about climate, food, culture and geographical features.</p>	
	<p>Continue adding to your glossary of interesting words and phrases you find. Remember, at Floreat we have a 'magpie book', which we use to store shiny words that the children like so that they can use them again later. Encourage your children to steal vocabulary that shines!</p>	
	Writing	<p>Nelson Handwriting</p> <p>Your child will continue to write with their 'Perfect Pencil Grip' and 'Posture for Writing'. All Year 4 children will continue to practise joined-up Nelson Handwriting.</p> <p>All children now write in exercise books without tramlines.</p>
<p>You can support your child by ensuring that they sit properly on their chair with their feet on the floor, facing the table with a pencil in their writing hand and their other hand on their work. Please ensure that your child completes their home learning in joined up writing and with a sharp pencil.</p>		
Reading		<p>Sounds-Write (Phonics)</p> <p>We will continue consolidating the children's knowledge of the English phonetic code and using this to support both their reading and spelling of polysyllabic words, e.g., bi/cy/cle.</p> <p>Whole Class Reading</p> <p>This term your child will be reading <i>Stig of the Dump</i> which will support the learning the children will be completing in English. The text will be used to develop the children's vocabulary; abilities to infer, predict and explain; and the skills of sequencing and summarising a text.</p> <p>As well, this will be an opportunity for the children to develop their confident reading voices. We are hoping to develop their ability to express and use intonation appropriately.</p>
	<p>Please support by correcting spellings while your child is doing their Home Learning. At Floreat, we are direct when giving feedback e.g. a child spells the word 'accident' with an a > accidAnt, we say "In this word the sound is represented with an 'e'."</p> <p>Read with your child as often as possible! And, crucially, <i>re-read</i> with them. If your child has read a text out loud to you, ask them to re-read it once they have gone through the decoding stage. This will help comprehension. Finally, read it <i>to</i> them. This models intonation and expression when they re-read it for a final time.</p> <p>Ask your child to summarise what they are reading. Challenge them to create summaries of a section of text with fewer than ten words.</p>	
	Mathematics	<p>Maths</p> <p>During this half term, children will start by learning about length and perimeter. First, they will investigate finding equivalence between mm, cm, m and km, before adding and subtracting lengths and finding perimeters of rectilinear shapes. Then, the children will begin to explore multiplication and division. Initially, this will take the form of multiplying by 10 and 100, using place value columns to support their mathematical reasoning. From this, children will begin to divide by 10 and 100. Following this, children will focus upon their times table knowledge before completing column multiplication and division using the "bus stop" method. In all maths lessons the children will be working on their investigative skills as well as mathematical reasoning.</p>

	<p>You could support at home by asking your child questions about their maths learning. For example, prove that... What if... If this equals... what might this equal? If we know that... what else do we know? E.g. If we know that $17 + 17 = 34$ then what does $170 + 170 = ?$</p>
Knowledge	<p>Science – We will be learning about the classification of plants and animals. We will look closely at the concept of classification in relation to vertebrates, invertebrates and plants. Children will learn about Carl Linnaeus and his work to name and classify living things History – This half term, your child will learn about Charles I. They will learn about his relationship with Parliament, the English Civil War and the consequences of this. Geography – This half term, your child will be learning about Mediterranean Europe. They will be locating this on a map, as well as comparing two geographical locations with respect to their climate, culture and geographical features.</p>
	<p>You can support your child at home by questioning them about the areas we are studying this half-term and encouraging them to read widely around them too. Any additional knowledge that your child brings to the classroom will be duly celebrated!</p>
Character and PSHE (Jigsaw)	<p>Your child is learning about empathy and perspective, humour and fairness. Whilst looking at these virtues we will explore real life contexts that the children might find themselves in and how we could approach these situations. These virtues will be embedded through discussion and stories as well as activities rooted in reality that will bring the learning to life! We will also be learning about the life of Carter G. Woodson, a historian, thinking about his perspective of what life might have been like in his time, as well as comedian Lenny Henry, and the impact he has made in his field. In PSHE this term, we will be looking at "Being Me In My World". Within this topic, we will look at: learning about being part of a class team; being a school citizen; rights, responsibilities and democracy; rewards and consequences; group decision-making; having a voice; and what motivates behaviour.</p>
	<p>In terms of developing your child's character, really question them. For example, this half-term, challenge your child's judgements – make them reason as to why they make the judgements they do and help to illuminate different perspectives.</p>
Music	<p>This term we will be introducing 'Composer of the Week'. The children will listen to a different composer every week and we will discuss and compare the different musical variations. In addition, we will also continue to learn and sing a variety of songs.</p>
	<p>You can support your children by exposing them to a variety of classical composers and discussing the music.</p>
P.E. and Dance	<p>This half term Year 4 children will learn rugby. They will build upon their learning last year to further refine their skills. There will also be a great focus on spatial awareness.</p>
	<p>Please ensure your child comes into school wearing their full P.E. kit on their PE day. Children will not be getting changed at school until further notice.</p>

General reminder – Please ensure that your child has a waterproof coat in school **every day** so that they can play outside come rain or shine. It is getting very cold, and we don't want any children being uncomfortable or getting ill.