

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	<p>Fiction: The Perturbed Pelican</p> <p>Your child will use this story as a stimulus to examine and compose a meeting tale. The children will recap upon subordinating clauses and where to use these in a sentence, as well as revisiting speech and its punctuation. Finally, they will be developing their own ending to the tale using original ideas.</p>
	<p>Non-fiction: How to Capture a Stone Giant.</p> <p>Children will be looking at using imperative verbs, organising a text within a list and using time connectives to join together procedural information.</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>Charlotte's Web</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 the children will continue to explore multiplication and division. Initially, children will be multiplying multiples of 100 using place value knowledge to support themselves, before moving onto multiplying 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers using column method. Following this, they will be dividing numbers 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?</p>

	E.g. If we know that $17 + 17 = 34$ then what does $170 + 170 = ?$ Furthermore, you can support your child by continuing to practice their fluency with their times table knowledge.
Knowledge	<p>Science – We will be learning about light and optics. We will be looking at the speed of light, how light travels in straight lines and the spectrum of light.</p> <p>RE – We will be studying Sikhism, focussing upon the main beliefs.</p> <p>History – This half term, your child will learn about James I. They will learn about how he came to the throne, his values and belief in the Divine Right of Kings and the Gunpowder Plot.</p> <p>Geography – This half term, your child will be learning about Eastern Europe. They will be locating this on a map, as well as identifying physical geographical features as well as studying Russia.</p> <p>Art – This half term the children in all year groups will be taking part in 'Portrait Week'. Portrait Week will take place on the week beginning 3rd February 2020 and will provide the art curriculum coverage for the entire half term in one fabulous week of art sessions. The children will learn how to draw a self-portrait in proportion before studying an artist. They will recreate their self-portrait in the style of their given artist and master a given media to complete their work of art. Parents will be invited towards the end of the term to a 'home-time gallery' in which they can see the wonders that the children have created across all year groups.</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!
Character	Your child is learning about perseverance, curiosity and leadership and teamwork. 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!
	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.
Music	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. You can support your children by exposing them to a variety of classical composers and discussing the music.
P.E. and Dance	This half term Year 4 children will learn gymnastics. They will build upon their learning last year to further refine their skills. There will also be a great focus on spatial awareness.
	Please ensure your child brings their PE kit to school every day .

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.