

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	<p>Fiction: Lost in New York Your child will be learning to retell the story of <i>Lost in New York</i>. They will be using this as a stimulus to examine and compose a journey 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 learning to write instructions based on our Reading text <i>The Girl Who Stole an Elephant</i>. We will be building on our knowledge of imperative verbs and fronted adverbials to succeed in this.</p>
	<p>Continue adding to your glossary of interesting words and phrases you find. Remember, at Floreat we have a 'magpie wall', 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>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>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>During this half term, children will begin looking at area and perimeter before move onto learning about the 3, 6 and 9 times tables and their relationships. They will conclude with a unit on properties of shapes, focusing on quadrilaterals and triangles. In all maths lessons, the children will be working on their problem-solving skills as well as mathematical reasoning. We will continue learning the 3 times tables and then move onto learning the 4 times tables.</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 $170 + 170 = ?$
Wider Curriculum	All pupils across the school will focus on the enquiry question 'How have structures influenced our lives?' Year 4's enquiry question is 'What was the impact of the Roman invasion on Britain?' Throughout this term, children will build on their Technology, History, Art, DT & Geography skills. Pupils will learn about the Roman Empire and its impact on Britain including the success in invading and conquering Britain, engage in a debate (Boudica vs Nero) and will then use their knowledge of Roman structures and settlements to design, refine and evaluate a final model of a Roman structure. Throughout the term, pupils will also be developing their independent research and presentation skills. Computing – Year 4 will identify the input device (microphone) and output devices (speaker or headphones) required to work with sound digitally. Learners will discuss the ownership of digital audio and the copyright implications of duplicating the work of others. We will work towards recording and editing a podcast.
	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	Character - In Character this term, your child is learning about self-control and dignity this term with a heavy focus on 'Zones of Regulation'. This is going to equip the children with the necessary skills and techniques to regulate their own emotions even in times of high stress. Some of the children will also be taking part in the Sparkle community project. If your child is involved this term, you would have been notified; if not, your child will be in the next group to participate in Spring Term. PHSE – In PSHE this half term, Year 4 will focus on 'Celebrating Differences' where we will learn about how we can acknowledge the differences of others and what influences us. We will also look at ways that we can solve conflicts with others and how we can celebrate what makes us special. Music – This half term in music, we are going to continue learning the skills needed to play the glockenspiel. We will also spend some time preparing for our Festive performance. Spanish – We will start our new unit 'What is the weather?' where we are learning how to say different type of weather.
	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.E. and Dance	Year 4 are learning about Hockey and Football. Within Hockey, they will be learning all about stick and ball safety, along with how to dribble & sweep and slide. In Football, we will be looking at game related scenarios, whilst still improving our shooting accuracy.
	We will also be undertaking Swimming lessons every Friday morning for the next 12 school weeks. Please ensure your child is dropped off to the office at 8am every Friday as per the separate communication.
	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.

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. As we know, the weather in England can change very rapidly! All blazers, coats and PE kits must be clearly named.