Year 4 Newsletter

Aldwyn Primary School - Every Child a Success

Autumn Term 2

Monday 2nd November 2026
to
Friday 18th December 2026

Winter Wonderland

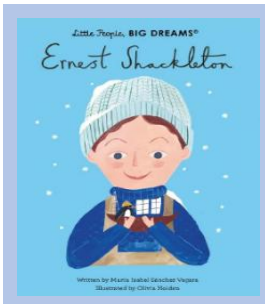
We hope you and your children have had a lovely time over the half-term holiday and are ready for the fun and exciting term ahead. Our theme for this half-term is called 'A Winter Wonderland' which fits in perfectly with the Christmas Season!





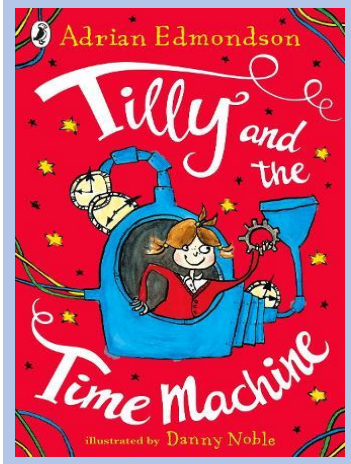
Our School Values

Achieve Care Value Listen Help

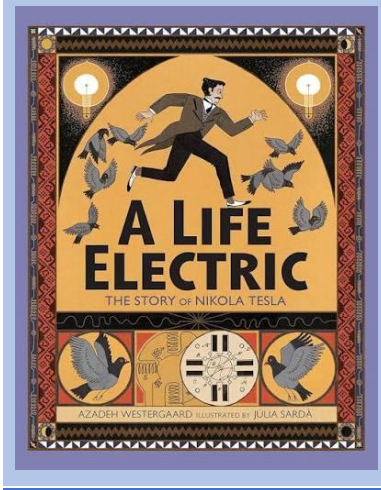


This term, our Year 4 students are learning about one of history's most courageous and inspiring leaders, Ernest Shackleton**!** Shackleton was a brave Antarctic explorer who showed incredible perseverance and determination. Through his adventures, students will discover how never giving up and believing in yourself can help you achieve your goals. We're exploring Shackleton's amazing journey and learning how his strong leadership and hope helped his team through some of the toughest challenges on Earth.

English

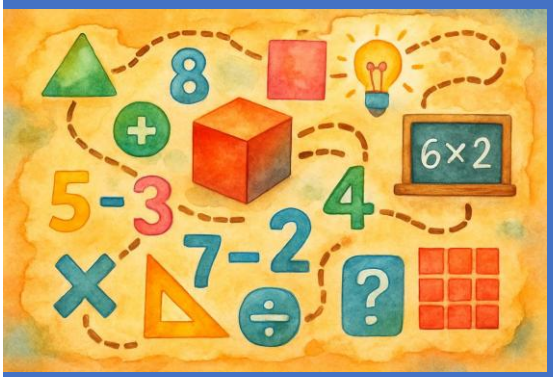


In English this term, Year 4 will be reading *Tilly and the Time Machine*. We will be using this exciting text as inspiration for our own narrative writing, developing our creativity and imagination as young authors. Throughout the unit, the children will explore how authors create engaging characters, build atmosphere and develop exciting plots. They will have opportunities to develop their vocabulary, experiment with a range of sentence structures and use descriptive language, dialogue and accurate punctuation to bring their stories to life. Our learning will support the children in meeting the Year 4 National Curriculum expectations for writing, with a particular focus on planning, drafting, editing and improving their own narratives.



Alongside reading *Tilly and the Time Machine*, we will also be enjoying *Life Is Electric: The Story of Nikola Tesla*. Through this book, the children will learn about Nikola Tesla, his amazing inventions and how his work helped shape the way we use electricity today. We will use the story to develop our reading and writing skills, learning how to pick out important information, discover new vocabulary and write about the lives of significant people. The children will have the opportunity to share interesting facts and develop their skills in writing their own non-fiction text.

Maths



In Maths this term, Year 4 will be:

- Building confidence with numbers up to 10,000 and learning how to compare and order four-digit numbers, as well as rounding them to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000.
- Practising adding and subtracting larger numbers using the column method.
- Exploring perimeter and learning how to measure the distance around different shapes.
- Practising counting in 3's and 6's to help us learn and become more confident with our 3 and 6 times tables.

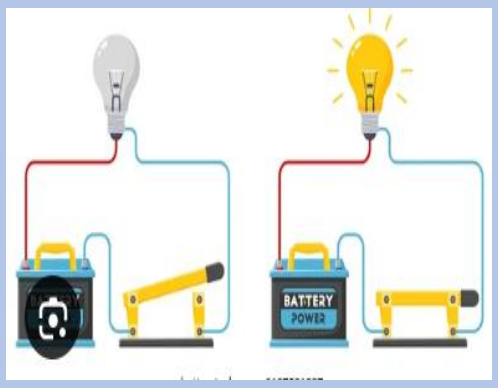
How can you help at home?

There are lots of simple ways to support your child's learning. Encourage them to practise their times tables regularly, perhaps using Times Tables Rock Stars or by asking them quick questions. You could also look at four-digit numbers together, such as house prices or numbers on signs, and ask your child to read, order or round them. When out and about, encourage them to spot shapes and talk about how they could measure the distance around them. Just a few minutes of practice each day can make a big difference!

It is compulsory that all children in Year 4 take part in the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) in the summer term. For more information about this please visit:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents.

Science



Within science, Year 4 will be switching on their curiosity as we begin our electrifying electricity unit! We will learn all about how electricity powers the world around us. We'll explore how to make simple circuits using wires, bulbs, switches, and batteries, whilst also learning how to recognise which materials are electrical conductors or insulators. We will also investigate how switches control the flow of electricity and discuss ways to stay safe when using electrical appliances at home. It's going to be a bright and buzzing topic full of hands-on experiments and scientific discoveries.

Design and Technology

In our design and technology unit, Year 4 will be designing and making their own working torches. The children will explore how electrical circuits work and identify the different components needed to make a bulb light up. They will learn how to create a simple circuit using a battery, wires and a bulb, before designing and making a torch that is both practical and suitable for its purpose. The children will also explore different materials and test their finished torches, making improvements where needed. By the end of the project, they will be able to explain how their torch works and evaluate their finished design.



PSHCE



This term in PSHCE, year 4 will be celebrating what makes each of them unique and special! Our topic, Celebrating Differences, encourages children to explore the wonderful ways in which we are all different and how those differences make our school community a fun, welcoming and interesting place to be. Through games, discussions, and creative activities, the children will learn about

kindness, respect, and understanding, especially when people have different backgrounds, abilities, or beliefs.

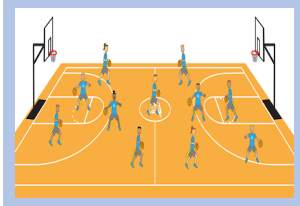
Geography



In Geography, we are heading on a chilly adventure to learn all about the incredible continent of Antarctica! We will discover what makes this icy land so unique, from its freezing temperatures and stunning landscapes to the brave explorers who have ventured there. We will learn about which animals call Antarctica their home, such as penguins, seals, and whales, and learn how these amazing creatures survive in such extreme conditions. Through maps, videos, and research, we'll develop a deeper understanding of this fascinating part of our planet and the importance of protecting it for the future.

On the afternoon of **3rd December**, we will be bringing Antarctica to life with an exciting indoor adventure! The children will take part in a range of hands-on activities, including creating their own Antarctic maps, making penguins and exploring the wonders of snow and ice through some fun sensory activities. It promises to be an exciting afternoon full of creativity, exploration and discovery as we imagine what it would be like to visit the frozen continent of Antarctica. We can't wait to see the children's fantastic creations!

PE



In PE this term, Year 4 will be developing their skills in Invasion Games, with a focus on basketball. Pupils will practise key skills such as dribbling, passing, shooting and defending. They will learn how to work effectively as part of a team, use space wisely and make decisions during games. Children will also develop their understanding of attacking and defending strategies, while demonstrating good sportsmanship, teamwork and fair play.

French



In French, our young linguists are diving into a brand-new French unit all about *la famille*! The children will be learning how to talk about their family members and say how many they have - all *en français*, of course! There will be plenty of lively discussions, games, and speaking activities to help everyone build confidence and show off their amazing oracy skills. It's going to be *magnifique*!

Religious Education



In RE, our children will be learning about the day of Pentecost - a powerful moment in the story of God's people. After Jesus returned to heaven, His followers waited for the gift He had promised. On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came to them like a rushing wind and flames of fire, filling them with courage and joy. Through this topic, the children will discover how Pentecost marks the beginning of the Church and how the Holy Spirit helps us share God's love with others.

Computing



In Computing this term, Year 4 will be exploring the exciting world of digital images. Pupils will learn how to edit and manipulate images using a range of digital tools, as well as how to save and reuse their work. They will also discuss how and why images are edited, considering the impact this can have on how we see and interpret pictures. Throughout the unit, children will develop their creative and digital skills, learning to make thoughtful choices and evaluate how effective their edits are.

Music



In Music this term, Year 4 will be exploring the song *Stop!* a rap about bullying. Through listening, singing, musical games and composing, pupils will develop their understanding of the interrelated dimensions of music, including rhythm, pitch and tempo. They will also have opportunities to create their own musical ideas, improvise and perform, while developing their confidence and musical skills.

We're really looking forward to all the exciting learning and experiences this term has to offer! If you have any questions or would like to chat about what's happening in Year 4, please don't hesitate to come and see us, we're always happy to help. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and encouragement, it truly makes a difference!

Kind regards,

The Year 4 Team