



Year 4 Newsletter Summer 1

Violent Volcanoes

What's the matter with the Earth?

Following on from our earthquake and tsunami topic and our Europe topic, where the children learnt about how mountains are formed, we are now taking a deeper look into Volcanoes. The children will be continuing their learning by fully understanding the Human & Physical Geography by describing and understanding key aspects of volcanoes. With this serious topic, we will be creating some fun and colourful art.

Extended Learning Opportunities:

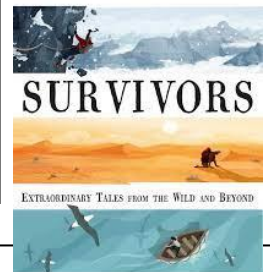
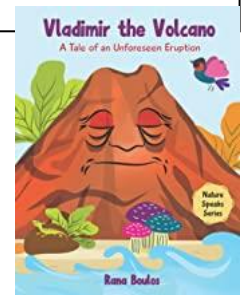
Have a go at creating your own exploding volcano!!

Research Volcanoes around the world or even create your own "Top Trump" cards of them!

In Literacy:

We will be up levelling the narrative picture book Vladimir the Volcano by looking at the two skills: *expanded noun phrases* and *dialogue*. We will be looking at the use of language and key vocabulary to describe both the characters of the book – the volcano, magma – and the setting – the beautiful land of Dynamo. Our 2nd unit of work will be revisiting NCR writing and using our geography skills to describe volcanoes.

Our class story that we will be reading is Survivors, a collection of non-fiction stories that have a wonderful mixture of the scariness of peril and the glorious uplift of survival. It is insightful, inspirational and all absolutely true



In Maths:

This half-term we will continue to focus on money before moving on to our time unit of work.

IMPORTANT NEWS – this term will also see the children undertake a multiplication test online.

The Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) is a key stage 2 assessment to be taken by pupils at the end of Year 4 (in June). The purpose of the MTC is to make sure the times tables knowledge is at the expected level. In the 2021/2022 academic year, the multiplication tables check (MTC) is statutory for primary schools.

The MTC is an online test where the pupils are asked 25 questions on times tables 2 to 12. For every question, they have 6 seconds to answer and in between the questions there is a 3 second rest. Questions about the 6, 7, 8, 9, and 12 times table come up more often. The questions are generated randomly based on the rules of the MTC.

The progress the children have been making with their times tables has been great to see so this test will be a good testimony to them. Keep up the good work on the weekly homework and TT Rockstars as well! Please check out the Orchard website for all the times table grids ready to print at home, if you would like to practice more at home!

Leading Question
What's the matter with the Earth?

In Geography:

Linking back to our Autumn 2 topic of Earthquakes and Tsunamis, we will continue to look at the earth and the impact on the planet – focusing on Volcanoes. We shall be looking at their whereabouts, linking to our tectonic plate knowledge, how they are structured, features of eruptions and a field study of our local area thinking hypothetically about a local volcano.

In Art:

In art, we will be studying paintings by Eileen Downes to help us design and draw Zentangle Mountains by looking at the construction of landscape images. Zentangle art is a miniature abstract work of art created by a collection of patterns. The children will create tangles with combinations of dots, lines, simple curves, S-curves and orbs. These simple shapes are the "Elemental Strokes" in all Zentangle art and will be then added to mountain landscapes and coloured in.

In Music:

Mrs Beton will be introducing African percussion this term and will be doing a concert at the end of term! Throughout the term, they will be creating at least two different sounds on the drums: bass (dun) and tone (tek). They will be maintaining a steady beat counting in 2, 3 and 4 metres, copy and match rhythm patterns in 2, 3 and 4 metre fitting them to the steady beat.

In Computing:

The children are focusing on a programming unit that will teach them to turn Algorithms into codes using two characters in conversation!

In Science:

The children will be looking at the states of matter and observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure and research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius (°C). The children will then identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.

In French:

In French, the children will begin to extend their basic sentences by adding common verbs to describe what they can do and the time of day they do it.

In RE:

The children will be focusing on Wisdom. During their learning, they will be describing and explain how the people believe the Torah and the Bible contain wisdom and then describing and explaining the importance of this wisdom in the world today.

In PSHE:

In this unit of work, we will be looking at Media literacy and Digital resilience and how data is shared and used. We will be linking this to real life to make the children aware of online strategies used to gain trust, money and personal information. We will also look at Money and Work. They will be making decisions about money as well as using and keeping money safe.

Reminders:

Homework

* There are 3 expectations for homework each week – evidence of homework will be monitored:

READING – a minimum of 3 x a week and this should be signed off in their reading book which will be checked every **Monday**.

TIMES TABLES – the children will work through the different stages of the times table challenge and therefore **MUST** know the multiplication and division facts for each times table by the end of year 4. They can practise on TTRS or on paper but a grid in their homework needs to be completed each week and handed in. These books will be checked and the children will be tested on a **Wednesday**.

SPELLINGS – The spelling book sent home, is to be filled in and the weekly spellings will be stuck in every Friday. The weekly test is also on a **FRIDAY**, which will be completed in the back of this book too so you can keep an eye on progress. Please ask if you need a new book.

	WEEK 1 Friday 29th April (for test 6th May)	WEEK 2 Friday 6th May (for test 13th May)	WEEK 3 Friday 13th May (for test 20th May)	WEEK 4 Friday 20th May (for test 27th May)	WEEK 5 Friday 27th May (for test 10th June)
Year 4	/s/ spelt 'sc'	Homophones	Yr 3/4 words	Prefix un/dis/in	Prefix 'super'
	science	weather	breathe	disobey	superstar
	scene	whether	calendar	dislodge	superman
	scissors	missed	enough	unlikely	supermarket
	abscess	mist	experiment	unequal	supernatural
	ascend	bear	remember	unpopular	supernova
	scented	bare	knowledge	discomfort	superpower
	descend	aloud	interest	incomplete	superficial
	crescent	allowed	consider	inaccurate	superimpose

P.E. Please be aware of **NEW PE days**:

4JD – Wednesdays and Fridays

4ZM - Wednesdays and Fridays

4MB - Thursdays and Fridays

Please ensure your child comes to school in the correct kit (plain white t-shirt, plain black shorts, school jumper and trainers), hair tied back and wearing correct footwear on these days.

If you have any queries or questions, please feel free to email your child's class teacher:

4JD@orchardjunior.com

4MB@orchardjunior.com

4ZM@orchardjunior.com

Here's to another fun, exciting and wonderful half term!

Many thanks for your support.

The Year 4 Team