Land's End to John O'Groats
Spring Term 2017 - Year 4

ENGLISH & LANGUAGE:

ENGLISH: Our stories this term will be, 'The Woman of the Sea', a tale from Scotland and the story of 'The Apple Tree Man', from England. We will be using 'The Woman of the Sea' to inspire our discussion writing (following on from spoken debates in class). We will be working on explanation writing in the second half of the term and will be writing at least one piece of explanation writing in The Big Write. There will continue to be a significant focus on the use of spelling, grammar and punctuation over the next term and we will be working hard to develop understanding of inference and deduction in our reading sessions.

FRENCH: We will be exploring how a number of festivals are celebrated in France. We will be focusing specifically on La Fête des Rois, Chinese New Year and Mardi Gras. We will be developing and extending our knowledge of French vocabulary together and will be using bi-lingual dictionaries where appropriate.

MATHEMATICS: Our maths programme will continue to follow the National Curriculum. Objectives will include:

- Using formal written methods to add and subtract 3 and 4-digit numbers
- Recognising and comparing angles
- Multiplying by a 3-digit number
- Recognising, using and comparing decimal numbers
- Learning multiplication and division facts for the 7 times tables
- Finding fractions of 2 and 3- digit numbers

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

The children will be learning in depth about the Easter story; they will be thinking about why Easter is such an important time for Christians and how the events during Holy Week may have been viewed by those in Jerusalem at the time. We will also be exploring the question, 'Is a holy journey necessary for believers?' We will be learning about both Christian and Hindu pilgrimages and children will have the opportunity to share their experiences of holy journeys.

UNDERSTANDING THE ARTS

MUSIC: We will be continuing to learn the violin on Wednesdays; it would be very helpful if violins could go home each week to facilitate practice and ensure the classroom is clear.

ART: We will be learning about artists and designers from England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. We will be exploring the work of John Constable, Lilian Holt, Charles Rennie Mackintosh, Richard Wilson (one of the founders of the British Academy) and John Lavery, amongst others.

UNDERSTANDING PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH & WELLBEING

PHYSICAL EDUCATION:
The children will still be swimming on Tuesdays and will be developing their dance and net and ball skills on Mondays. Please could you ensure that your child has their P.E. kit in school and that, if they are asthmatic, we have access to an inhaler in class throughout the week. Outdoor PE starts after February half-term.

SCIENTIFIC & TECHNOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING

SCIENCE: This term Year 4 will be learning about the human digestive system and will be comparing this with some other animals' digestive systems (particularly ruminants). We will also be learning about teeth and tooth decay and simple food chains. We will also be learning about habitats, minibeasts and the effects of changes in the environment on living creatures and their habitats.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY: We will be using what we have learned in science to help us to design and make a minibeast habitat.

COMPUTING: Year 4 will be using the iPads to investigate the UK; they will be exploring google maps and will go on to create an e-book/ PowerPoint linked to our context. We will be discussing how to use the internet safely and the children will be creating posters linked to this.
Year 4 are set Mathletics homework every Thursday which should be completed by Friday; if your child cannot access this, please let me know.

HISTORICAL, GEOGRAPHICAL & SOCIAL UNDERSTANDING

GEOGRAPHY: During this term we will be learning about the United Kingdom. We will be looking at the countries that make up the UK and using maps, globes and the internet to pinpoint where the UK is in relation to other countries. Year 4 will have the opportunity to learn about the capitals of the British Isles and will be comparing regions of England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. We will also be learning about a range of cities in the UK and will be identifying key geographical features of UK regions.

PSHE/SEAL: Using the SEAL programme we will be focusing on the topics 'Going for Goals' and 'Good to be me'. We will also continue to focus on thinking and learning skills in our Grow Your Brain sessions.