

Year 4 Newsletter

Autumn 2023 - Half Term 2

Welcome to the second half of our Autumn term! We have got lots booked in the calendar and we are very excited to be starting some new topics. The children have settled extremely well into Year 4 and we look forward to another successful half term.

Year 4 Curriculum

This half term, we will be basing lots of our learning around the Victorian Era.

In **English**, we will begin the half term by looking at the Victorian Era.

We will research different elements such as jobs, transport, inventions and, of course, Queen Victoria herself before writing our own non-chronological report. After this, we will be moving on to writing a persuasive argument from both viewpoints. Finally, we will look at the classic 'A Christmas Carol'.



In **Maths**, we will begin by looking at area before moving on to multiplication and division.

In **Science**, our focus will be on the topic of 'Electricity.' Children will learn to make and represent electrical circuits using switches. After this, we will look closely at conductors and insulators.



In our **Art** lessons, we will focus on William Morris and identify and recreate some of his designs. After this, we will design and create our own print in the style of William Morris.

In **Music**, children will continue to develop their keyboard skills.

In **History**, we are immersing ourselves in The Victorian Era. We will focus on jobs, transport, inventions and Queen Victoria's life and reign.



In **Computing** this half term, children will build on their coding knowledge and skills.



In **RE** this half term, we will be learning about special journeys and holy pilgrimages. We will reflect on our own journeys in life.

In **PSHE**, we will follow the unit entitled 'celebrating differences', where we will think about our differences and discuss our culture of tolerance and respect for each other.

Value of the Month

November: Forgiveness



December: Peace



Homework

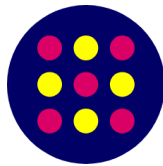
We were so impressed with the level of homework that was submitted in Autumn 1. Thank you for all your hard work (parents, carers and children).

Homework will continue to be set each week this half term.

Homework will be set on a Friday afternoon and should be returned the following Friday. This will be set on MyMaths and on Google Classroom. Alongside this, is the expectation that children will practice their times tables each week using TTRS or Purple Mash.

At Priory Rise, we consider homework to be extremely important as a means of continuing and developing the learning that takes place in the classroom. We welcome the support that parents provide in assisting their children with homework at home and encouraging the children to complete their tasks to the best of their ability and to the highest of standards.

Thank you for your support with this!



Physical Education

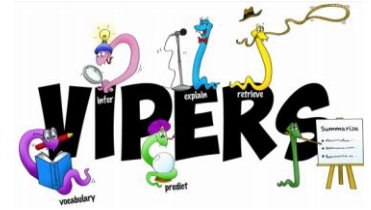
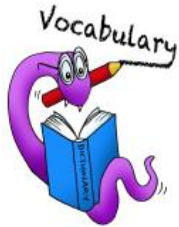
PE and Games in Key Stage 2 will take place on the following days this half term:

	Fletcher Class (Miss Birmingham)	Wilson Class (Miss Major)	Larwood Class (Miss Bastiani)
1	Wednesday	Friday	Friday
2	Wednesday	Friday	Friday

Mr Smyth and Mr Neal will teach the children both PE sessions. Please ensure that your child arrives to school already dressed in their full kit, including black plimsolls or trainers, on the above days. Also, as the weather becomes colder, please ensure that children have appropriate warm outdoor PE kit.

Reading!

This half term, we wanted to involve you in our amazing VIPERS work. Practising these comprehension skills at home is essential to supporting your child's progress.

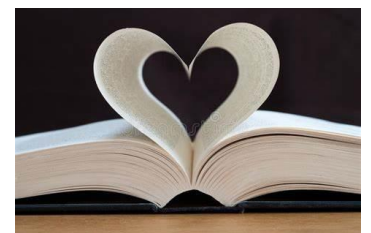
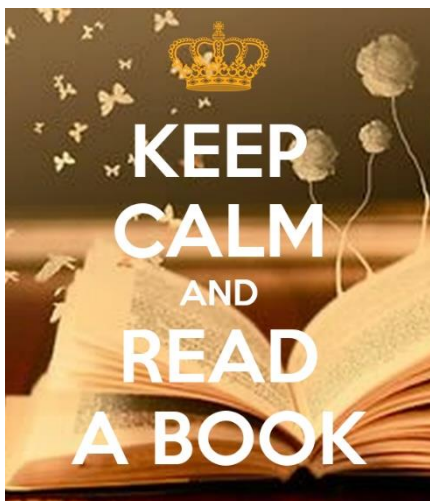


V is for Vocabulary

Building children's vocabulary is crucial to their understanding of a text and you are the experts!

Here are some questions you could ask your child when reading together at home:

- What is the definition of this word?
- Can you name 3 synonyms for this word?
- Can you name 3 antonyms for this word?
- What does this word/phrase tell us about the character/setting/atmosphere?
- Can you find the word that has the same meaning as ...?



Library

All children will have the opportunity to visit the library once a week.

During this time, the children have access to a wide range of texts. These books are then allowed to be taken home.

Children who are 'free readers' are allowed to select 2 library books as these replace their banded reading book.

Fletcher: Tuesday

Wilson: Monday

Larwood: Thursday



Snacks

Thank you for supplying your children with snacks.

This really keeps their energy levels up throughout the day.

We would just like to reiterate that snacks should be either fruit or vegetables.

Thank you for your support with this.



Staff in Year 4

Teachers:

Miss Major– Year 4 Leader & Wilson Class Teacher

Miss Bastiani – Larwood Class Teacher

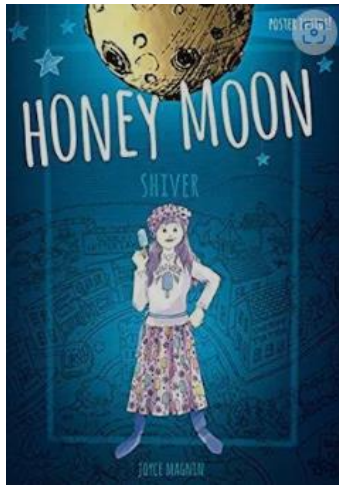
Mrs Birmingham – Fletcher Class Teacher

Mr Gifford – Trainee Teacher

Teaching Assistants:

Mrs Awad, Mrs Knowles & Mrs Pargeter

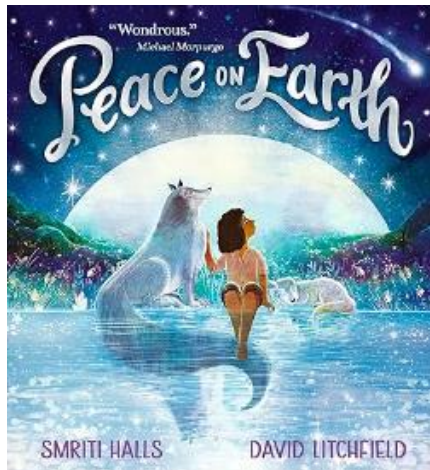
Book recommendations



Shiver – Joyce Magnin

Part of the Honey Moon series

Honey Moon is in a terrible pickle. She borrowed her mother's precious silver locket without permission and now the family heirloom has gone missing. Honey suspects it was taken by one of her best friends. She sets out to find the necklace before her mother notices it's gone. Along the way, Honey meets Shiver, who turns out to be much more than the owner of the newest popsicle shop in Sleepy Hollow. With Shiver's guidance and a bit of magic, Honey is able to track down the locket and learn the importance of telling the truth and the power of **forgiveness**.



Peace on Earth – Smriti Halls

A happy band of friends journey together, but dark clouds threaten their friendship and they lose their way in a story that starts in the safety of the happy and familiar, then goes on to explore the difficulty of discord and hurt; what it means to lose and find peace again; the bravery it takes to be a peace-maker; and the jubilation that peace ushers in. From smiles to small gestures, to natural beauty, we discover that while peace isn't always easy to find, it makes love and friendship whole

Thank you!



Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter, we hope you have found it useful. If you have any queries, please remember you can email us at:

Year4@priorityrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk

