

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	<p>Fiction: <i>The Abominables</i></p> <p>Your child will be learning to retell an extract from <i>The Abominables</i>. They will use this to help them plan and write a short story that focuses on using direct speech. We will create authentic spoken encounters between characters, ensuring correct use of punctuation.</p> <p>Non-fiction: This term the children will be writing a newspaper report. They will study various examples and use these to write their own. They will think carefully about structuring their report and choose appropriate grammatical features to ensure it flows.</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>Whole Class Reading</p> <p>This term your child will be reading <i>The Abominables</i> which will support the learning the children will be completing in English. The text will be used to develop the children's vocabulary; abilities to infer, predict and explain; and the skills of sequencing and summarising a text.</p> <p>As well, this will be an opportunity for the children to develop their confident reading voices. We are hoping to develop their ability to express and use intonation appropriately.</p>
	<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>You could support at home by asking your child questions about their math learning. For example: prove that... what if... if this equals... what might this equal? If we know that... what else do we know? E.g. If we know that $17 + 17 = 34$ then what does $170 + 170 = ?$</p>	

Knowledge	<p>Science – We will be learning about ‘Sound’. We will learn how sound is produced, how it travels through the air, what pitch and volume is, how the human voice makes different sound and the different parts of the ear.</p> <p>History – This half term, your child will study, ‘The Rise and Fall of Rome’ They will learn about the Punic Wars, Julius Caesar and the rise of Christianity.</p> <p>Geography – This half term, your child will be learning about, ‘Northern Ireland’. They will identify key features of Northern Ireland, locate and label Northern Ireland on a map and understand the reasons for Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland being separate.</p> <p>Art- We will be learning about ‘Monuments of Ancient Rome’ which links our history knowledge to our art this term.’ We will learn facts about the Pantheon, the colosseum and Trajan’s column before constructing our very own pantheon.</p> <p>RE- We will learn about Christian celebrations including Advent, Shrove Tuesday, Lent, Easter and The Pentecost as well as why and how Christians celebrate them.</p>
	<p>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!</p>
Character and PSHE (Jigsaw)	<p>This half term your child will be focusing on the virtues Appreciation and Awe, Judgement and Prudence, and Forgiveness. Your child will explore these virtues through drama, stories and discussions whilst looking at authentic contexts to analyse and deliberate their approach to them.</p> <p><i>Appreciation and Awe</i> – we will be discussing how we can show our appreciation and awe to different people and the world around us.</p> <p><i>Judgement and Prudence</i> – we will be emphasising how important it is to have a good judgement in different situations and reason why we have these judgements through deeper questioning</p> <p><i>Forgiveness</i> – we will be exploring real life contexts that the children might find themselves in and how we could approach these situations through discussion</p> <p>In PSHE this term, we will be looking at “Healthy Me”. Within this topic, we will look at friendship groups, leaders and followers within friendship groups, smoking and alcohol and its effects on our health, reasons people choose to smoke or drink alcohol and feelings when under pressure.</p>
	<p>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>
Music	<p>This term we will be listening to ABBA. We will listen to (and sing!) a variety of ABBA songs so that we can discuss and learn about the elements of music.</p>
	<p>You can support your children by exposing them to a variety of classical composers and discussing the music.</p>
P.E. and gymnastics	<p>This half term Year 4 children will learn to play netball. They will build upon their learning last year to further refine their skills. There will also be a great focus on teamwork and finding space on the court.</p>
	<p>Please ensure your child comes into school wearing their full P.E. kit on their P.E. day. Children will not be getting changed at school until further notice.</p>

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. It is getting very cold, and we don’t want any children being uncomfortable or getting ill.