

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	<p>Fiction:</p> <p>Your child will be learning to retell the story of <i>Sulemanis and the Whale</i>. They will use this to help them plan and write a short story that focuses on bringing together all the skills they have learned in Year 4 so far. We will be revising apostrophe use for both possession and omission, comma usage for fronted adverbials, and correctly punctuated direct speech.</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>
	<p>Nelson Handwriting</p> <p>Your child will continue to write with their 'Perfect Pencil Grip' and 'Posture for Writing'. All Year 4 children will continue to practise joined-up Nelson Handwriting.</p> <p>All children now write in exercise books without tramlines.</p> <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>Why The Whales Came</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>
	<p>Maths</p> <p>This term, we will continue to practise our multiplication facts up to 12 x 12. In all math lessons the children will be working on their investigative skills as well as mathematical reasoning. We will start by revisiting their learning on telling the time then progress onto converting the 12-hour clock to the 24-hour hour clock. We will also learn to convert units of time like seconds to minutes. We will also learn about fractions- what a fraction is, what a whole is and what improper and proper fractions are.</p> <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?</p>
Mathematics	

	E.g. If we know that $17 + 17 = 34$ then what does $170 + 170 = ?$
Knowledge	<p>Science – We will complete our learning about 'Sound'. We will then learn about The Water Cycle including the states of matter as well as what evaporation, condensation and precipitation are.</p> <p>History – This half term, your child will study 'The Stuarts'. They will learn about Charles I, Oliver Cromwell and the restoration of Charles II.</p> <p>Geography – This half term, your child will be learning about 'London and the South East of England.' They will identify key human and physical features of South East England such as Brighton Pier and the White Cliffs of Dover.</p> <p>Art- We will be learning about 'The Monuments of the Byzantine Empire' and we will focus on mosaics.</p> <p>RE- We will be learning about The Gurdwara & the Guru Granth Sahib.</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!
Character and PSHE (Jigsaw)	<p>This half term your child will be focusing on the virtues Optimism and Joy; and Creativity and Humility. 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>Optimism and Joy</i>– we will take part in class discussions on what things bring us joy in our lives and link this to appreciation.</p> <p><i>Creativity</i>– we will be highlighting the different ways we can show our creativity and celebrate our own creative attributes</p> <p><i>Humility</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>
	In PSHE this term, we will be looking at "relationships". Within this topic, we will learn about jealousy, be able to identify people who are special to us, talk about people we no longer see, discuss how friendships change and understand what having a girlfriend or boyfriend might mean.
	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.
Music	This term we will be listening to 'Lean on Me' by Bill Withers as a springboard to explore soul and learn about the elements of music.
	You can support your children by exposing them to a variety of classical composers and discussing the music.
P.E. and gymnastics	This half term Year 4 children will be learning track and field events. They will build upon their learning last year to further refine their running, jumping and throwing skills.
	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.

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.