



Year 4 Autumn Term 2021

The life, work and times of Roald Dahl

This autumn Year 4 will explore the life, work and times of the much-loved children's author, Roald Dahl.

As historians they will research the biographical details of Dahl's life and learn about the times in which he lived. They will develop an understanding of the chronology of the 20th century and consider key historical figures and events.

As scientists the children will identify everyday gadgets that use electricity, and learn about component parts of simple circuits and what conducts electricity. They will use this knowledge to create their own simple gadgets. After half term we will move on to our topic of Sound exploring vibration, pitch and volume. The children will consider the structure of the human ear.

English We will study several of Dahl's works including *Matilda*, *The Witches* and the *Revolting Rhymes*, looking at text, film and stage versions. The class will explore characters, settings and plot and write our own stories and poems linked to particular issues. In non-fiction the children will read and write information texts and instructions. The children will continue to improve their spelling, handwriting, grammar and punctuation skills.

Maths Children will be taught key aspects of:

- Place value;
- Calculation using all 4 operations including a focus on times tables and division facts;
- Mass measurements;
- Handling data using bar charts and Venn diagrams;
- Fractions and decimals.

Computing The children will use the internet for research linked to our topic, explore the functions of graphics and video software and begin the year 4 Espresso Coding modules.

PE The children will play team games such as Danish longball and basketball. They will take part in regular fitness activities and learn about dance styles of the 20th century.

French The children will revise and develop their basic conversational skills. They will learn the days and months in French as well as talking about their families.

Music The children will learn musical notation and create rhythms using this. They will learn about how music developed through the 20th century.

RE The children will learn how Hindu murtis are used to understand God and will focus on the role of Mary in the Christmas story.

Art The children will explore illustration looking particularly at the work of Quentin Blake. They will consider the work of other 20th century artists.

Enrichment and well-being

The children will explore gratitude, patience, kindness and optimism and use a range of wellbeing and mindfulness activities. We will investigate the school values of hope, respect and perseverance. The children will take part in themed activities on Roald Dahl Day and National Poetry Day. We have an exciting trip to London planned after half-term to see *Matilda the Musical*.