

### How can you support your child at home?

#### **Reading Reading Reading!**

We believe that the most important thing that parents can do at home to help their children achieve at school is to share books with them.

Reading can help children access other curriculum areas.

Reading can help children become good writers.

Reading can help children communicate well.

Please go to the website for further details about how you can help with your children's reading.

#### **Maths**

Please support your children in securing their number facts as these underpin much of the mathematics children will be working on in school and using in everyday life. These include number bonds to any number up to 20 e.g.  $7=1+6$ ,  $7=5+2$ ,  $7=3+4$ , and the 2,3,5 and 10 times tables. Could you also encourage them to use reasoning as much as possible so that they can explain to you how they got to a mathematical answer and why they think their answer is correct.

#### **Spellings**

Please support your children in learning the weekly spellings that we send home.

**We hope that this leaflet provides a sufficient overview of what your children will be learning over the next term, but if anything is unclear or you would like to discuss it in more detail please don't hesitate to come and see one of us.**

### **GOAL**

GOAL stands for Get On And Learn. We believe that children learn best when they have ownership of their learning. We also believe that encouraging independent learning skills supports a child in their future education. GOAL provides these two things, with pupil voice at its heart and independence encouraged throughout.



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## Year 4 Curriculum Letter Autumn Term 2018/19

Valley of the Dinosaurs/  
Stone Age to Iron Age Britain



### **Key Dates for the Term**

Valley of the Dinosaurs parent event: Thursday 18th October (3pm)

Residential: 4C—Monday 17th—Wednesday 19th September  
4S—Wednesday 19th—Friday 21st September

Half-Term: 19th –29th October

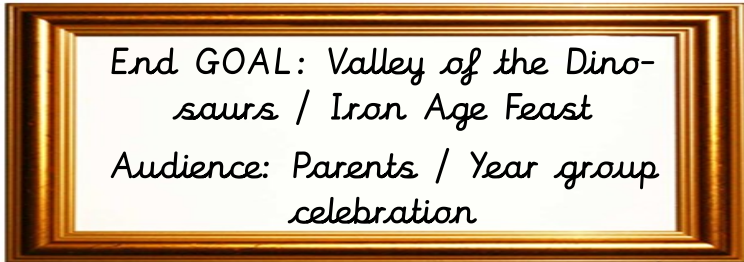
Class Assembly: 4C - Thursday 27th September (9 am)  
4S - Thursday 4th October (9 am)

Rainbow Day: 16th November

Family Learning Conferences: 8th and 11th October 4pm-7pm

Last day of term: 21st December

### The Big Picture



As writers, we will be taking inspiration from real books. We will develop our vocabulary by collecting our own word hoard from books we read and words we encounter and use those in our own writing. We will focus on using fronted adverbials to vary the beginning of our sentences and recap grammar aspects of previous years to secure understanding. We will also be focusing heavily on re-reading, editing and redrafting our independent work in order to improve the quality.

As Mathematicians, we will be looking at the place value of 4 digit numbers and how this helps us carry out operations using them. We will develop our fluency in times tables recall through daily practise. We will develop confidence with mental and formal written methods of calculating. We will develop our reasoning skills through problem solving activities. We will revisit the children's knowledge of shape and investigate angles and lines of symmetry.

### Pupil Voice Questions

- What do we know about different families of dinosaurs? CD
- Did people live at the same time as dinosaurs? JH
- How long did dinosaurs live? What was their lifespan? RG AL
- How do we know about Dinosaurs? JE
- What type of creatures were around in the dinosaur age? JC
- Are there any dinosaur fossils left? JR
- How long ago did the dinosaurs live? JP
- How did the ages get their names? MW
- How do you know if something comes from one of the ages? AT FF
- What was life like during these ages? HM
- How long were the ages? HB

As readers, we will be developing our oral and written comprehension. We will focus on predicting details of the text by looking at what we have read so far and clarifying the plot and unknown vocabulary by looking at what we already know.

As musicians, we will learn to play a four hole ocarina. Through this we will look at notation, keeping a steady pulse and playing rhythms. We will learn to play some basic tunes on our instruments and try to learn the theme music for Jurassic Park. After half term, we will learn a selection of Christmas carols for our carol service and even try to learn Wham—Last Christmas on our four hole ocarinas.

As dancers, we will use dance to create characters and narratives. After half term, we will develop gymnastic sequences of movement using floor space and apparatus. As sports people in outdoor PE, we will focus on invasion game skills and throwing and catching skills with a focus on Tag Rugby. We will then develop our problem solving skills with Outdoor Adventurous Activities.

In GOAL the children will do the following:

- As Scientists, we will be learning about teeth and their different functions, the role of the digestive system within the body and looking at food chains which will be linked to our topic of the dinosaurs.
- As explorers, we will be understanding the changes in layout of the continents on earth and looking at biome zones and changes within the landscape over the time period.
- As historians, we will be creating time lines of periods we are studying and developing our understanding of chronology. We will be looking at various aspects of life in prehistoric Britain and comparing that to modern day life.
- As designers, we will be designing our own super dinosaurs and making them using Modroc to display at our Valley of the Dinosaurs. We will then build our own mini roundhouses, and prepare and cook an Iron Age feast.
- As artists, we will be contributing to a year group collage of Pangea for display and creating accurate drawings of dinosaurs to support our learning.

As software developers we will be analysing, building and developing educational games on Scratch.

As toy designers, we will look at simple input and output toys and make our own interactive toys using Scratch.

### Rainbow Values

Enjoyment	Potential	Thinking	Community
Children will be enjoying visiting Wildside for their residential experience. This will support them with becoming more independent which will show in their GOAL learning.	We will be having a big push on developing vocabulary across the curriculum. 'What does that mean?' will become a common phrase used by all children across Year 4. Please encourage this	During RE (Religious Education) and SEAL (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning) sessions the children will be thinking carefully about 'New Beginnings', discussing how we feel	The children will create their own Valley of the Dinosaurs which will showcase all of their GOAL learning at home and school. This will be shared with the parent community.