

Quivers, Quakes, Eruptions and Shakes!



This term, Year 4 will explore the concept of 'making choices' with the big question:
Why do people choose to live near seismic areas?

In **Maths** this term, we will continue learning about decimals, with a particular focus on tenths and hundredths. Children will also learn how to write quarters, halves, and three quarters as decimals. Later on this term, children will apply their knowledge of decimals to solve complex problems involving money. The children will then recap their knowledge of time and learn how to read analogue clocks more accurately. They will then learn how to read digital clocks, and tell the time using 12h and 24h notation.

Year 4 children are expected to know all their times tables by the end of the year. The children will be completing a 'Multiplication Check' in June, which is run by the Department for Education. Please ensure that your child spends time practising these all-important facts at home as well as at school.

In **Music**, children will be identifying rhythms and ostinati (a continual repeated rhythm) and writing their own to represent erupting volcanoes.

Our **RE** topic will explore the concept of the Kingdom of God, children will explore this through the Big Frieze, considering what the Kingdom of God is and what it is like. They will also learn about the season of Pentecost and the events of this celebration and what it means for Christians today.

We will begin the term using the book 'The Street Beneath my Feet' by Charlotte Guillain in **English** lessons. The content and pictures in the book will inspire writing an explanatory text about the different layers of the Earth. We will continue to use our writing approach of 'The Write Stuff' to development children's understanding of the different writing lenses that can be used to enhance their work. Alongside this non-fiction text, the children will continue to focus on their grammar, spelling and punctuation through their weekly homework and discrete 'SPaG' lessons. Towards the end of our project, children will apply their knowledge about volcanoes and earthquakes to write a variety of poems.

As both summer terms approach, we will be alternating our **PE** to focus on developing throwing and catching type skills as well as children completing field athletic activities with a focus on improving their jumping and throwing week upon week.

The concept of sound will be explored within **Science** this term. Children will learn about how sounds are made and detected. Through experiments, children will investigate how the pitch and volume of sounds can change.

Children will build on their learning in **French** by developing their knowledge of animal names and using these to begin to construct sentences.

Inspired by volcanoes, the children will develop their **Art** skills through studying the work of artists such as Katsushika Hokusai. Children will use print, paint and drawing to create different effects and explore how colour can be used.

The children will gain a wealth of knowledge in our **Geography** led project about earthquakes and volcanoes. They will begin by studying the layer of the Earth before moving onto study tectonic plates and how these relate to the location of volcanoes and earthquakes. Children will study the different types of volcanoes as well as learn how both volcanoes and earthquakes happen. Finally, children can apply what they have learned to consider why people may or may not choose to live near a seismic activity area.