

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	<p><b>Fiction: The Abominables</b> Your child will be learning to retell a model text based on <i>The Abominables</i>. They will use this to help them plan and write a short story that focuses on setting description. We will create realistic settings, ensuring correct use of punctuation.</p> <p><b>Non-fiction:</b> This term the children will be writing a persuasion text. They will study various examples and use these to write their own. They will think carefully about structuring their text 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><b>Nelson Handwriting</b> 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><b>Whole Class Reading</b> This term your child will be reading <i>The Abominables</i>, by Eva Ibbotson, 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 &gt; 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><b>Maths</b> This term we will continue our learning on multiplying and dividing whole numbers by 10 and 100 using our knowledge of place value. We will learn how to use known facts to support us with unfamiliar facts. For example, we can use the fact <math>15 \div 3 = 5</math> to help us calculate the answers for larger unknown facts such as <math>1,500 \div 300</math> and <math>1,500 \div 3</math>.</p> <p>Pupils will learn the 11 and 12 times tables and the patterns within them as well as the relationship between them. Within these lessons we will continue using the 'distributive law' to support our calculations.</p> <p>Year 4 pupils will also learn about symmetry in 2D shapes and then move on to converting between analogue and digital time. Please support your children prior to this in telling the time to the nearest minute on an analogue clock, as taught in Year 3, to support them in their next step of their learning.</p> <p>Throughout the term, we will continue to practise our multiplication facts using our Times Table booklets.</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? E.g. If we know that <math>17 + 17 = 34</math> then what does <math>170 + 170 = ?</math></p>

<p><b>Wider Curriculum</b></p>	<p>All pupils across the school will focus on the enquiry question 'How has art represented aspects of our lives?' Year 4's enquiry question is 'How does art represent different periods of history?'</p> <p>Throughout this term, children will build on their history, art and design technology skills. Pupils will learn about British history during the time of the Anglo Saxons and Vikings, particularly focusing on the invasions in Britain.</p> <p><b>Computing</b> – Year 4 unit this term is programming. The pupils will use Chrome books and Ipads to create programs by planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. They will use Logo, a text-based programming language online. This unit is the first of the two programming units in Year 4, and looks at repetition and loops within programming.</p> <p><b>RE-</b> 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>
<p><b>Character</b></p>	<p><b>Character</b> – This half term your child will be focusing on the virtues Optimism &amp; Joy, Curiosity, Creativity, Honesty and Humour.</p> <p><b>PSHE</b> – 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><b>Music</b> – This term our theme is about helping each other. We will be listening to and learning how to sing 'Lean On Me' a soul / gospel song by Bill Withers. We will discuss and learn about the elements of this genre of music as well as using recorders and glocks to listen and play back parts of the song.</p> <p><b>Spanish</b> – This half-term, Year 4 will focus on "La clase" (The Classroom). During this unit, we will recall 12 classroom objects with their indefinite article, learn how to replace an indefinite article with a possessive adjective, and say and write what they have and do not have in their pencil case.</p> <p>You can support your child by discussing the world around you, stories you read and the things that you see and hear. It would be great for you to share your own experiences of when you have shown the above values.</p>
<p><b>P.E. and Dance</b></p>	<p>In PE this term, the children will be learning about Tennis and Dance. Within Dance, the children will be travelling around the world, learning different styles of dances from different countries such as 'the haka' and New Zealand. Within Tennis, the children will be learning how to implement the racket skills into game-play scenarios effectively and precisely.</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. As you know the weather changes quickly and we don't want your child to get wet or cold in the spring weather.