

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	<b>Fiction:</b> Your child will be learning to retell a Warning Tale called 'Ready for the Rain-Cat?' which is based on our class text <i>Varjak Paw</i> by S.F Said. They will use this story as a stimulus to examine characterisation and description. The children will recap upon story structure, and we will be focusing on subordination, i.e., pairing a main clause with a subordinate clause.
	<b>Non-fiction:</b> This term we will learning to write diary entries based on our Reading text <i>Varjak Paw</i> . We will be building on our knowledge of emotive language as well as the careful selection of vocabulary and powerful description for impact.
	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!
Writing	<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. Pupils are expected to correctly form all letters and join where appropriate. Numbers should also be carefully formed.
	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.
Reading	<b>Sounds-Write (Phonics)</b> We will continue consolidating the children's knowledge of the English phonetic code and using this to support both their reading and spelling of polysyllabic words, e.g., bi/cy/cle.
	<b>Whole Class Reading</b> This term your child will be reading <i>Varjak Paw</i> which will support the learning the children will be completing in English. The texts will be used to develop the children's vocabulary; abilities to infer, predict and explain; and the skills of sequencing and summarising a text.
	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'."  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.  Ask your child to summarise what they are reading. Challenge them to create summaries of a section of text with fewer than ten words.
Mathematics	We will continue learning about the times tables and the patterns across these times tables. To apply our learning, we will solve problems involving these times tables. We will then make links between multiplication and division with a focus on the distributive law. Later, we will learn to divide and multiply whole numbers by 10 and 100. Throughout the term, we will practise our multiplication facts using the maths challenge approach and other resources. In all math lessons, the children will be working on their investigative skills as well as mathematical reasoning and fluency.
	You could support at home by asking your child questions about their maths 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 $17 + 17 = 34$ then what does $170 + 170 = ?$
Wider Curriculum	All pupils across the school will focus on the enquiry question 'What impact has engineering had on the lives of humans?' Year 4's enquiry question is 'Development in technology made Britain more powerful. Support or challenge?'  Throughout this term, children will build on their Technology, History, Art, DT & Geography skills. Pupils will learn about the Victorian era including the British Empire. Through a science lens, pupils will learn about electricity and build simple circuits. Throughout the term, pupils will also be developing their independent research and presentation skills.

	<p><b>Computing</b> Year 4 will look at repetition and loops within programming. The children will create programs by planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. They will use Logo, a text-based programming language.</p> <p><b>RE</b> Pupils will learn about Judaism, learning about their prophets, scripture and places of worship and how these help Jews lead their lives.</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>
Character	<p><b>Character</b> In Character this term, Year 4 will focus on self-control, bravery, love and kindness, leadership and teamwork, fairness and service.</p> <p><b>PSHE</b> In PSHE this term, we will be looking at 'Dreams and Goals'. Within this topic, we will look at reflecting on positive experiences and how this can help counteract disappointment, how to set new goals and how to work out steps to achieving our hopes and goals.</p> <p><b>Music</b> This term we will be listening to rap and grime music. We will be focusing on song called 'STOP!' – a rap/song about bullying. You will learn about the interrelated dimensions of music through games, singing and composing.</p> <p><b>Spanish</b> The children will be learning greetings (formal and informal) and how to present themselves in Spanish.</p> <p>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.</p>
P.E. and Dance	<p>In PE this half term, the children will be participating in Gymnastics and Netball. Gymnastics will be individualised, developing their body management and skills on the apparatus, compared to Netball, being team-based, focusing on skills, rules and game play.</p> <p>We will also be undertaking Swimming lessons every Friday morning for the next 6 school weeks. Please ensure your child brings their swimming kit every Friday.</p> <p>Please ensure your child comes into school wearing their full P.E. kit on their PE 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 we know, the weather in England can change very rapidly! All blazers, coats and PE kits must be clearly named.