

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	Fiction: Rex Goes Rogue
	Your child will be learning to retell the story of <i>Rex Goes Rogue</i>. They will be using this as a stimulus to examine and compose a defeating the monster tale. The children will recap upon its story structure with a view to identifying its key features. There will be a heavy focus on sentence structure.
	Non-fiction: Information Text Children will be studying newspaper reports so that they can create their own. They will adapt the stories they wrote in the fiction unit into a newspaper report with a focus on including quotes. 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	Nelson Handwriting 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. All children now write in exercise books without tramlines.
	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	Sounds-Write (Phonics)
	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.
	Whole Class Reading This term your child will be reading <i>The Queen's Nose</i> by Dick King Smith and <i>The Raven</i> by Edgar Allan Poe 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. 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.
Mathematics	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.
	During this half term, we will begin by consolidating Year 3 learning which involves column addition and subtraction with a focus on place value and number composition. We will then explore four-digit numbers up to 1,000 where we will focus on rounding, finding one thousand more or less than a given number and strategies to solve calculations more efficiently. In all Maths lessons, the children will be working on their investigative skills, mathematical reasoning and fluency. We will also continue to learn our times tables. 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 'How can data help us understand the world around us?'. Year 4's project will investigate how we can reduce evaporation in a bird bath and result in pupils designing, prototyping and then producing bird baths which can be used in our school garden. Within this project, children will build on their Science, Art, Maths, DT & Geography skills. Pupils will learn about states of matter and materials, the water cycle, living things. Additionally, pupils will be able to describe and understand key aspects of physical geography and talk about weather and seasons in the UK. Computing - Pupils will learn that the World Wide Web is part of the internet and will be given opportunities to explore for themselves in order to learn about who owns content and what they can access, add, and create. Finally, they will evaluate online content to decide how honest, accurate, or reliable it is, and understand the consequences of false information. RE - This term's topic is "Inspirational Christians." Pupils will explore Jesus' teachings on peace, love and forgiveness and how these inspire Christians today. They will reflect on the lives of figures such as Martin Luther King and Mother Teresa, compare Christian beliefs with other Bible-based religions, and consider how biblical teachings influence choices in the modern world. 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!
Character	Character - Your child is learning about Self-Control and Dignity, Zones of Regulation and working towards completing a Service Learning Project. Whilst looking at these virtues, we will explore real life contexts that the children might find themselves in and how we could approach these situations. These virtues will be embedded through discussion and stories as well as activities rooted in reality that will bring the learning to life! PSHE - In PSHE this half term, Year 4 will focus on 'Being Me in My World' where we will learn we will learn about working as a team, democracy, the school community and decision making. We will look at the responsibilities that go along with these and the rewards and consequences that can result from decisions that are made. Music - We are going to be exploring a number of aspects of music through ABBA's song, 'Mamma Mia' including how music makes us feel, how it is structured as well as the influence that music can have on culture. Spanish - The focus for Spanish this half term is on phonics and pronunciation, ensuring that we are saying the sounds correctly in Spanish to improve our understanding and speech. 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.E. and Dance	In Autumn Term 1, our Year 4 children will be learning how to pass and shoot with the inside of their foot in football, whilst also learning how to score tries in Tag Rugby. Please ensure your child comes into school wearing their full P.E. kit on their PE day: Wednesdays. Children will not be getting changed at school until further notice.

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.