Year 4 – Autumn 1

Secure and Happy Individuals

The Big Debate: **Identify and self-worth are influenced more by change than by context or culture.**

What will the children be learning?

During this half-term, the children investigate the concept of self-worth by studying social history with a focus on "How have children's lives changed?" They will look at changes including the Tudor and Victorian periods to explore how children lived, and the differences between them. This will also focus on children's rights and how they have developed over time. The children will develop an understanding of how they can be in charge of using the school values to develop their sense of self-worth and find their place in school and the wider community. They will explore how and what influences their lives and move onto developing an intrinsic self of self-worth believe so they can dream big and develop a greater awareness of the skills they need to develop to be successful in school. Please see the curriculum section on our school website for more detail about the subjects and skills to be covered.

English

During this half term, we will be using the picture book Shine by Sarah Asuquo to explore themes of identity, diversity and what makes each of us unique. Through our reading and discussion of the text, pupils will reflect on how individuality should be valued, celebrated and respected. Inspired by the book, children will then create and write their own stories, using Shine as a stimulus for their ideas. We will also make links with our history learning by writing a non-chronological report about how children's lives have changed over time. Both writing units will contribute to our Big Debate topic, and in the final week of the half term pupils will bring together the themes, knowledge and opinions they have developed for the debate.

How to help at home

Please listen to your child read regularly at home. It is beneficial to read a range of texts as children will learn different skills from different genres. You could ask questions about how a character might be feeling based on the evidence in the text and it would also be helpful if you could spend time discussing the meaning of specific words and their effect on the story. Please ask your child questions about the text based around Ranvilles' Reading Masters. Spelling is key to develop children's writing and self-esteem. Please support your child to practise weekly in a way that they enjoy. Upload reading and spelling weekly for house point rewards!

Maths

In maths, the children will start the year consolidating their existing knowledge of number and place value. They will look at the value of digits within a four-digit number, adding and subtracting 1, 10, 100 and 1 000. They will also explore rounding numbers to the nearest 10 and 100 and how to represent these on a number line. The children will go on to understand how to solve problems involving: addition and subtraction, numbers in sequences and reading scales. Later this half-term, the children will extend their understanding of addition and subtraction in the context of money, putting it in context in a variety of different ways. Throughout this half-term, the children will explore various mental strategies to help them solve problems accurately.

How to help at home

To assist the children, we would appreciate you spending time with the children working on their times table knowledge. We would also like you to work with your child on how to tell the time correctly on both digital and analogue clocks. In addition to this, working with your child on quick, mental calculations and number bonds to 100 will benefit their learning greatly. When out shopping, challenge the children to work out the price of two or three items and find out the price before the till attendant. Small amounts of regular practice help children secure and consolidate key skills. To help with this, your child has access to Times Table Rockstars and Spelling Shed where they can apply their learning from school.

Other information

PE: This term our PE days are on Monday and Tuesday. In basketball on Mondays, the children will be learning key concepts to develop their skills, including: passing, dribbling and shooting as part of a team. On Tuesdays, the children will be learning the fundamental skills required across multiple sports. They will explore how the body moves and how to identify areas of strength and areas for development.

Library: The children will be provided with the opportunity to visit the school library regularly. Children are encouraged to choose two books from the library, to enjoy throughout the week. They will also have regular opportunities to change their banded books.

Cloakrooms: Space in the cloakroom is very limited; please ensure your child only brings essential items to school i.e. water bottle, coat and lunchbox. Please can you ensure your child brings a healthy snack with them to have at breaktime and that they have suitable clothing for the weather as it can be highly changeable.