



GRESTONE ACADEMY

PART OF THE HAMSTEAD HALL ACADEMY TRUST



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Year 4 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Here is an overview of what will be happening in Year 4 this half term.

Curriculum

Our half term topic is 'Blue Abyss' and the main focus for the topic will be art and design.

Memorable Experience: A visit to The Sea-life Centre.

English: Pupils will be writing a response to a poem and a persuasive text.

Maths: In Maths we will be learning about formal written methods used in multiplication and division, adding and subtracting fractions, volume and capacity, coordinates and interpreting bar charts and time graphs.

Science: This term children will learn about 'Living things and their habitats'. Pupils will recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways and will also explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment.

Geography: Pupils will use map resources to locate seas and oceans of the world. They will study The Great Barrier Reef and consider environmental issues related to the sea and oceans of the world.

Computing: This term we will use Scratch to program an onscreen submarine that dives or surfaces. Children will program the submarine using simple commands to go up or down, add visual backgrounds and bubbling, sonar or other sounds.

Music: The children will learn The Beatles' song, 'Yellow Submarine', and write a new verse of their own.

Art & Design: Children will be producing detailed drawings of fish, using a range of pencils.

P.E: Children will be improving their athletic skills in preparation for class tournaments.

RE: This term we will be exploring why Christians see going to church as being important

Homework

- How many amazing shark facts can you find? Build them into a PowerPoint presentation to show the rest of the class. Remember to include images and perhaps some video clips too.
- Write a 'True or False' quiz with fascinating facts about creatures and plants under the sea.
- Create a picture dictionary of plants and creatures of the ocean.
- Visit your local library and find non-fiction books about the oceans and seas. Use them to find out about sea creatures of the world. Look for information using contents, glossary and index pages. Write down any new facts you have learnt and share them with your class.
- Use the web with an adult to find out about famous undersea explorers, such as Robert Ballard, Sylvia Earle, William Beebe and James Cameron. Record your information to share with the class.

- Design an 'Under the Sea' board game. What creatures might your counters represent?
- Write a story about a diver's exploration of a coral reef.
- Write a poem about the creatures living in the blue abyss. It might be an acrostic, shape, haiku, cinquain or free verse poem.
- Research how to scuba dive and write a set of instructions for a new diver.
- Make a tourist leaflet for people visiting Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

Kind regards,

Mrs Rajput, Mrs Beasley, Mr Diffley and Mr & Mrs Webb.
Year 4 Classroom Teachers