

## English

### Key texts:

**Core Text:** The Green Ship by Quentin Blake

This half term, children will explore this imaginative narrative picture book, develop rich vocabulary and improve their skills in predicting, inferring and summarising. They will study Quentin Blake's illustration style and use it to inspire their own descriptive writing.

**Main Writing Outcome:** A narrative inspired by The Green Ship.

### Key Skills

- Make predictions and inferences from what I have read.
- Identify the main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and can summarise these.
- Consistently organise my writing into paragraphs around a theme to add cohesion for the reader.
- Propose changes to the grammar and vocabulary of my writing to improve it.
- Consistently use a neat, joined handwriting style.

## Our Curriculum

### **How Does a River Shape the Land and the People who Live Near it?**

#### **Spring 1: Year 4**



## Maths

### Multiplication and Division, Fractions and Length & Perimeter

This half term we will be continuing with multiplication and division, before moving into length & perimeter and fractions.

### Units include:

- Informal and formal written methods
- Multiplying 2-digit numbers by 1-digit
- Dividing 2-digit numbers by 1-digit
- Related multiplication/division facts
- Measuring and calculating perimeter
- Partitioning and understanding mixed numbers

A key focus this half term will be securing rapid recall of all times tables up to 12. Our weekly assessment each Friday will help monitor progress and reinforce this essential skill.

## Science

### Sound and STEM fortnight

This half term, the children will deepen their understanding of sound by exploring how vibrations create sound and how these vibrations travel through different materials to the ear. They will investigate how pitch and volume can change, carry out a sound survey around school, and create a human model to demonstrate how particles pass sound vibrations along. The children will also explore how distance and different materials affect sound. All this learning will lead into our STEM Fortnight project, where they will design, make and evaluate a sound-muffling device to reduce the noise from the screaming Mandrake.

### Key Skills

#### Working scientifically

- Making systematic and careful observations and, where appropriate, taking accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment, including thermometers and data loggers

## How you can help!

- Book bags to be brought to school daily.
- Read daily at home with your child
- Use the Look, Cover, Write method to support your child with their weekly spellings.
- Read and write the half termly Common Exception Words (CEW) set out in homework book.
- Keep up to date via parentmail, school website and twitter
- Help your child complete their maths homework weekly, including their timetable tests
- Use Purple Mash activities and Times Tables Rock stars to practice spelling, reading and maths,  
[www.corbridgefirst.northumberland.sch.uk](http://www.corbridgefirst.northumberland.sch.uk)

## RE

### What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today?

This half term, the children will explore the question 'What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today?' They will begin by learning about where Hinduism originated and the key beliefs that many Hindus follow, including ideas about reincarnation, karma and the belief in atman (the soul).

### Key Skills

- Identify Hindu deities
- Make suggestions & links between Hindu beliefs and aims of life
- How they show their faith within their families
- Discuss differences between how communities can show their faith
- Make links between the 'sparks' of God and individuals' values
- Discuss different family and community

## Geography

### How does a river shape the land and the people who live near it?

This half term, the children will be studying the River Tyne and developing a deeper understanding of how rivers shape both the landscape and the lives of the people who live nearby.

#### **Key Skills:**

- Identify the features of a river and a river basin
- Locate major rivers around the world and understand their importance
- Describe the upper, middle and lower course of the River Tyne
- Interpret data to make safe decisions around rivers
- Investigate erosion and deposition
- Explain how the River Tyne has changed over time due to human activity and land use

## Art and Design

### Key artist: Andy Warhol

#### **Collage:**

- Further development of individual collages
- Using a more abstract artist
- Trying to show collage in a more abstract way.

#### **Key Skills:**

- To create sketch books to record their observations and use them to review and revisit ideas
- To improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting, and sculpture with a range of materials [for example, pencil, charcoal, paint, clay]
- About great artists, architects, and designers in history

## P.E.

### Gymnastics and Invasion Games

On Mondays we will be doing Gymnastics. We will be focusing on balance & co-ordination

- Exploring basic balances and body tension
- Counterbalances with a partner
- Linking balances with controlled travel
- Using apparatus
- Final routine performance

Tuesday's session will be delivered by Mr Thompson and will mainly take place outdoors. We will play winter games, modified where appropriate, and apply basic principles suitable for attacking and defending in invasion games.

- Please ensure your child's PE kit is appropriate for outside PE
- No jewellery should be worn in school.

## PSHE

### How we can manage our feelings

This half term we will be thinking about our feelings and how they can change over time and can be experienced at different levels of intensity. We will be discussing the importance of expressing feelings and how they can be expressed in different ways. We will also be learning about how to respond proportionately to, and manage, feelings in different circumstances.

#### **Other PSHE opportunities:**

- Safer Internet Day 2026
- Global goals

## Computing

### Online Safety & Effective Searching

Children will learn how to stay safe online and how to use search engines effectively.

#### **Key Skills:**

- Phishing
- Malware awareness
- Plagiarism
- Healthy screen time habits
- Using search engines
- Improving search efficiency

## Music

### Lean on Me by Bill Withers

This half term, children will continue to explore Lean on Me by Bill Withers as part of our Charanga unit. They will listen to the song in depth, identifying instruments, rhythm, tempo and mood.

They will also develop their musical appreciation by listening to a range of pieces from different genres, discussing how the music is structured and how it makes them feel.

We will also be learning new hymns in worship and songs linked to key school events and celebrations

## French

This half term, children will learn how to communicate in real-life café situations using key vocabulary and simple conversational structures. They will build their confidence speaking aloud, recognising written French and look at how words change depending on who is speaking.