

# **Arthur Bugler Primary School** **Parent Information Booklet**



**Year 4**

**Autumn Term**  
**2021**

Teachers: Mrs Livingstone, Mrs Smith and Mrs Fenner

Teaching Assistants: Ms Humphreys, Mrs Nightingale and Mrs Fuller- Betts

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 4! We are very excited to get to know your child while we are teaching them this year. In Year 4 we have six very exciting topics to learn about and we have lots of fun activities prepared. It's going to be a great year! In this booklet you will find information regarding each subject area and what we will be covering throughout this term. Happy reading!

In English, Year 4 will be focusing on a variety of texts which the children will read in class during their Reading sessions and we will be starting with *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo. We will be basing the word, sentence and text level activities (both fiction and non-fiction) around these texts in the daily English lesson. Children will be writing play scripts, information texts as well as stories and recounts. They will be reading a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts and will also be studying *The Hodgeheg* by Dick King-Smith, as well as a range of Native American stories.

Within Mathematics, children will begin the year by learning about place value and how this can aid them when ordering numbers, adding and subtracting, rounding and using Roman numerals. Children will then move onto mental and written methods for adding and subtracting in which their place value knowledge will be vital. After this, children will be covering the topic of multiplication and division. We will be doing lots of work during this topic on children learning their times tables as this will help them develop further understanding of multiplication and division. Finally we will be ending the term by starting the topic of measurement, specifically looking at area.

Road Trip USA! (Our first Cornerstones topic)

Buckle up and put your sunglasses on – this half term we're going on a road trip across the USA! We'll start by 'visiting' the states where Native American tribes settled. We'll use travel brochures and the internet to research New York and write postcards to family members. Using maps, we'll locate the USA and find the names of the states. We'll look at the amazing lights of Times Square, make circuits and create a program for a tourist trip around New York. We'll explore Native American myths and write our own. After learning about their cultural significance, we'll weave beautiful dream catchers. Looking at aerial views of natural landmarks, we'll think about how they might have been formed. We'll create travel brochures and make illuminated models of different landmarks. Also we'll try delicious dishes – would anyone like a muffin?

Help your child prepare for their project

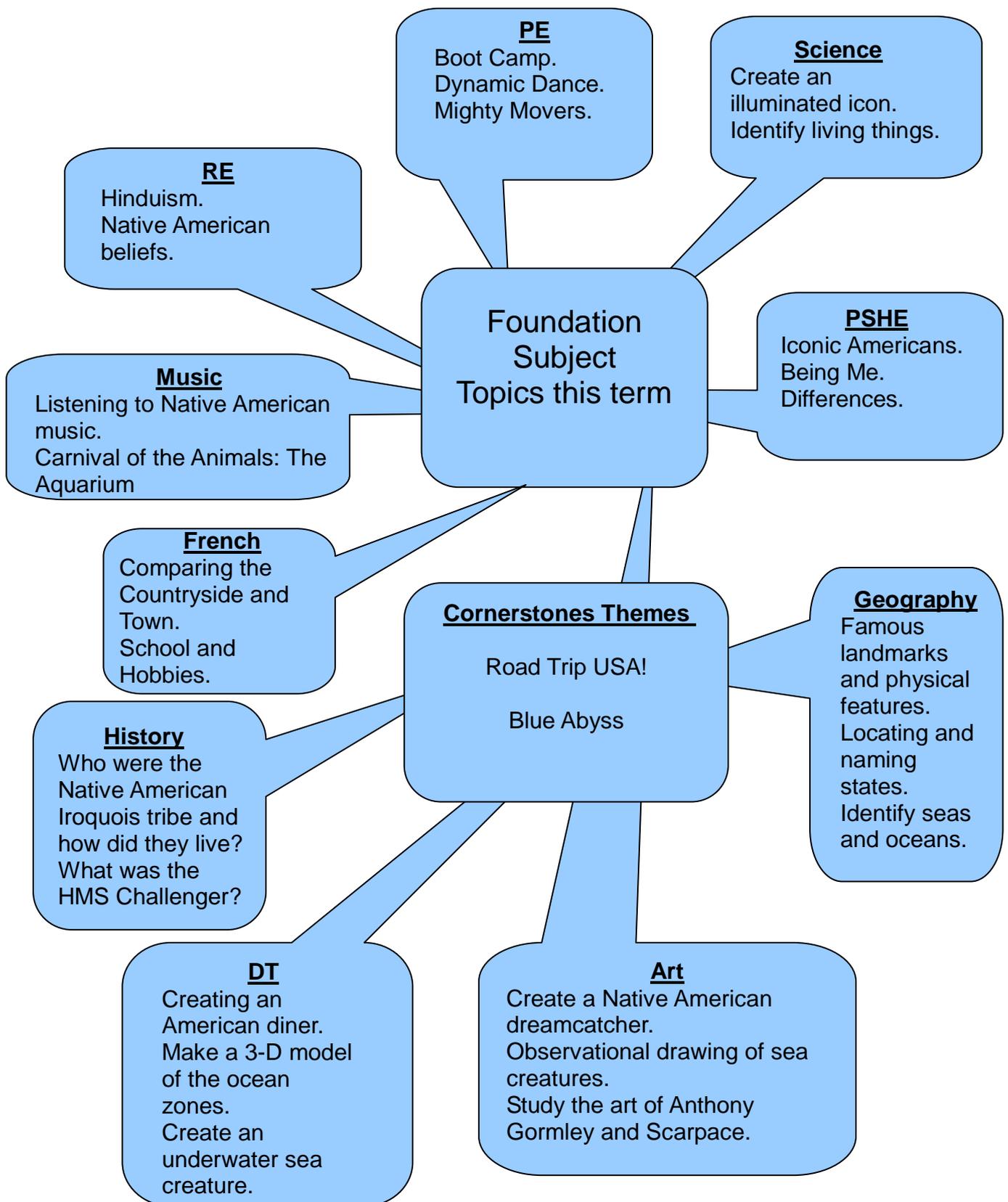
The USA is an incredible place, with a varied landscape and culture. Why not choose a state to research together and create a scrapbook of exciting locations? You could also make a playlist of American songs from different genres that you could listen to on your road trip. Alternatively, visit the supermarket together to see if you can identify any foods associated with the USA. You might even try some of them!

Blue Abyss! (Our second Cornerstones topic)

Grab your wetsuit! We're going on a deep sea adventure. This half term, we'll visit an aquarium to gain an insight into the ocean world. We'll sketch different creatures and create clay sculptures of our favourite. Writing poems inspired by our favourite sea creatures will help us to develop a rich vocabulary. Using maps, globes and atlases, we'll identify the world's oceans and seas. We'll also find different ways of grouping living things. Diving back into the 1800s, we'll learn all about the HMS *Challenger*. We'll research Jacques Cousteau and write biographies about his exciting explorations. As a challenge, we'll create model submarines using recycled materials and program an onscreen submarine. We'll study Antony Gormley's *Another Place* sculpture and write reviews. After locating the Great Barrier Reef on a map, we'll learn about the risks it faces now and in the future.

Help your child prepare for their project

Oceans are remarkable and fascinating places that are full of life. Why not visit the coast together to see an ocean or sea up close? You could also look at an atlas or online map to find out which seas and oceans surround Britain. Alternatively, work together to create an under-the-sea collage using different materials to represent the plants, creatures and water.



## General Information

- PE uniform should remain in school at all times and will be sent home for washing at the end of each half term. Our PE days are Tuesday and Thursday.
- A weekly homework task will be set on Thursday and need to be returned on Monday for marking.
- Spellings – will be set on Friday on Spelling Shed and tested in school on the following Friday.
- Please listen to your child read every night at home so they can continue to develop their reading skills. This can be recorded on the 'Go Read' app.
- Water bottles should be clearly named and brought into school every day.

## Experiences

We will be sharing an experience in school to get us excited about our Road Trip USA topic and we will be creating our own American Diner so children can sample some American foods.

In the second half term we will be discovering different sea creatures around the world using aquariums and will be planning a new pond area to begin our Blue Abyss topic.

If you do have any further questions and you wish to speak to us, please do not hesitate to make a phone appointment through the school office. We look forward to working closely with you and your child.

Thanks in advance for all of your help and support,

**Mrs Livingstone, Mrs Smith and Mrs Fenner.**

