



BISHOPS ITCHINGTON  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

PART OF STOWE VALLEY MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

# Holyrood Class Newsletter

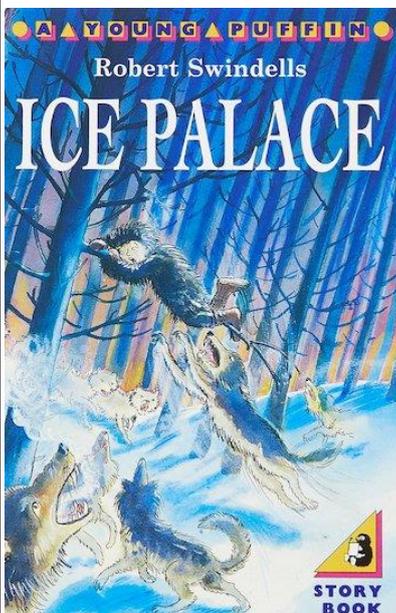
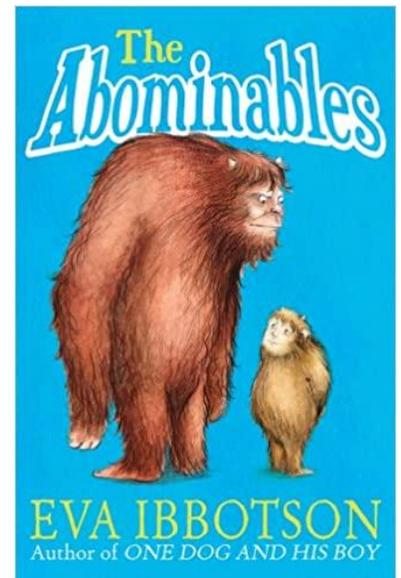
## Autumn Term 2021

Welcome everybody to Holyrood class (Year 4) I am really looking forward to teaching your children this academic year. In this first term we will be learning about many different topics. Please read on to discover all the great things we will be covering this Autumn term!

### Reading

This term our class texts will be 'The Abominables' written by Eva Ibbotson and then in the second half-term we will be moving onto 'The Ice Palace' written by Targei Vesaas. Our story time reading book will be 'The World's Worst Children' by David Walliams.

The children will be learning a variety of skills through reading. They will be learning how to familiarise themselves with new vocabulary, infer from text using clues, make predictions based on pictures and evidence in the text. Retrieve by reading information and choosing the relevant parts that a question is asking, explaining in detail what is happening and why, retrieving information by reading the text and summarising text by picking out the most important and exciting information.



Children are expected to be reading every day at home. It is important parents or older siblings can ask questions to the children about the book that they are reading such as: Who are the characters? What is happening now? Why does a certain character feel this way? What do you think will happen next? It is not about how much the children read, it is about how much they understand. Reading for roughly 15-20 minutes a day and then being asked comprehension questions is ideal. Children will be receiving reading records which will be checked every Monday morning, please can parents sign these and perhaps comment how your child has read.

There will be many fun opportunities within reading this term. All children will have the chance to read to the rest of the class. We will be practising reading skills every day. Every week there will be paired reading where Holyrood class will be reading with Sandringham.

### English – Writing, handwriting, grammar, punctuation, and spelling

We follow the National Curriculum for the delivery of skills in writing, grammar, punctuation and spelling. The books that we will be looking at this term will allow the children to learn and apply these skills.

Children will be practising their handwriting on a weekly basis, learning how to join the letters and to ensure their writing is legible. Through English children will learn how to write non-chronological reports, newspaper reports, character descriptions, setting descriptions, diary entries and learn how to debate different statements.

Our English lessons will incorporate our class texts and the writing will cover fiction and non-fiction. This will give children the opportunity to write imaginatively using different resources such as pictures and video clips. It will also allow children to write from a non-fictional point of view, by writing biographies and studying history.

We use the 'The No Nonsense' spelling scheme at Bishops Itchington and children will get spellings every Monday, they are expected to practise them at home and then bring their spelling journal back into school for the Friday where they will be tested.

Grammar will be taught alongside English lessons including adjectives, fronted adverbials, paragraphs, expanded noun phrases and determiners. These skills will enhance the children's writing and make it more interesting and expansive.

## **Maths**

Following the White Rose scheme of work Year 4 will focus on the following units during the Autumn term:

**Number: Place Value**

**Number: Addition and Subtraction**

**Measurement: Length and Perimeter**

**Number: Multiplication and Division**

To support your child at home please get them to practice their times tables up to 12. Children in Year 4 need to know all their times tables up to 12 x 12 and the division facts. We have a times table test towards the end of the academic year and it helps so much with all areas of maths. Children will have access to TT Rockstars to learn their tables, whilst there are plenty of other websites such as topmarks.com and timestables.me.

## Science

This half-term children will be learning about living things and their habitats. They will explore variety of ways to identify, sort, group and classify living things. They will learn how animals are split into vertebrates and invertebrates and begin to consider the differences between living things within these classifications. This unit will also introduce children to the idea that environments are subject to human-made and natural changes and that these changes can have a significant impact on living things.

The scientific skills that children will learn during this unit will be sorting living things into groups, generate questions about animals, seeing similarities and differences between vertebrates, identify vertebrate groups, identify the characteristics of living things, suggesting how to have a positive effect on the local environment and name endangered species.

Through our topic children will be participating in fun science experiments including going on an invertebrate hunt on the playground and field.



## Other Curriculum Subjects

**History:** Our topic this term is all about Mountains and Survival. During the first half-term children will learn about how to survive in a mountainous region. They will learn about what things they will need and how they would survive. They will also learn about Sir Edmund Hilary and compare the evidence from the past to now.

**Geography:** Through learning about mountains children will learn about the different mountain ranges across the world and where they are located. They will learn about how mountains are formed physically and how humans use them.

**RE:** In line with the Warwickshire syllabus, we will learn about who Jesus was and why he was inspiring. Children will learn about some of his stories, why people chose to follow him and why he was important.

**PSHE:** During this first half-term children will be learning about protective behaviours. The rights that all children have, safe and unsafe feelings. About what happens when you get your early warning signs and what you can do and putting adults on a network whom you can trust to tell them when you get your early warning signs.

**PE:** Currently children have PE on Wednesdays and Thursdays, however when swimming returns then they will need their swimming kit on a Monday and PE kit on a Wednesday. Children are getting changed at school now, so it is important they have what they need one each day.

**Art & Design:** Children will be learning about mountain art and looking at different artists and techniques. They will be using their sketchbooks and learning how to print designs using a printing plate.

**Design & Technology:** After half-term children will be designing and then making their own survival bar with food technology, so they will be using ingredients and thinking about how their own cereal bar would help them survive.

**Music:** Children will be listening to different pieces of music and then discussing the mood of it. They will identify different instruments being used and learn about those groups. They will also get the opportunity to play some instruments.

**Computing:** Children will be recapping how to code using purple mash this half-term, they will be creating their own settings, characters and learn how to use the different functionalities they 2code provides.

### *Homework*

Maths homework will be set on Tuesday and expected back on Friday and English homework will be set on Friday and then expected back by Tuesday. If children complete it before the day it is supposed to be in that will be perfectly fine.

*We do hope that your child enjoys their last term of this academic year with us. If you do have any worries or concerns, please feel free to speak to one of us quickly, about any matter, however small.*

*Mrs. Purewal, Mrs Vialette and Mrs. Abbott*