

Misty Mountain, Winding River

<i>Subject/ area</i>	<i>Subject Summary</i>
<i>English/ Literacy</i>	<p>In English this half term we explored an exciting adventure story called <i>Wolf Brother</i> by Michelle Paver. We used a text based on this story called <i>Ice Forest</i> to inspire our writing, and looked in detail at how to create an effective setting description with lots of suspense and action. We rehearsed the text orally, created a story map, and began editing the story ourselves to create our own independent adventure story.</p> <p>Throughout this topic, the children focused on using interesting sentence openers, extending sentences using conjunctions and including exciting vocabulary. We also looked at using commas for effect in a narrative and making sure we use all the types of punctuation needed such as exclamation marks or inverted commas for direct speech.</p>
<i>PSHE/SMSC/RRSA</i>	<p>In Jigsaw this half term, we have been exploring <i>Celebrating Difference</i>. The children began the unit by exploring how they can judge someone by their appearance and how this is not always helpful. We moved on to look at how each person comes to a situation with a different opinion because of their experiences in life and how this is okay. The children also looked in detail at what bullying is and how different people feel when bullying happens. We created a list of how the bully, the person being bullied and a bystander might feel when it is happening.</p>
<i>Maths</i>	<p>This half term the children have been adding and subtracting three and four-digit numbers using the column method. They have solved addition and subtraction problems and continued to build on their knowledge of place value to help them solve increasingly difficult calculations. We have also focused on exchanging ones, tens and hundreds carefully and have now begun to do this more than once in addition and subtraction calculations.</p>
<i>RE</i>	<p>Year 4 have explored why Christians call Jesus the Light of the World this half term. They have thought about symbols of light and how this makes us feel compared to the dark. We thought about light in the Christmas story and put Mary in the 'hot seat' to answer questions. We looked at Holm Hunt's famous picture of Jesus and how this links to the belief Christians hold that Jesus is the Light of the World. They also looked at Advent and its link to light and thought of messages of hope we could pass to others.</p>
<i>Art</i>	<p>Year 4 have been looking at landscape art this term. The children explored different types of landscape art. They also created their own viewfinder to look at the landscape with and choose a setting to recreate.</p>
<i>D&T</i>	N/A
<i>History</i>	N/A
<i>Geography</i>	<p>Year 4 have been exploring the topic 'What can we discover about Europe?' They have used atlases and world maps to identify different countries of Europe and define the term 'continent' correctly. The children also explored physical and human features of their local environment and explored different climates and biomes around the world.</p>
<i>Music</i>	<p>In Music, Year 4 have been learning to play the glockenspiel. They have been learning to use the notes C, D, E and F and how these notes fit together in a piece of music. Children have had the opportunity to read musical notation and sing and play along with a piece of music. We have spent some time learning the song 'Good, Better, Best' and learning how to play our instruments along with this piece.</p>

<p><i>Computing</i></p>	<p>In Computing, Year 4 have enjoyed improving their coding skills using '2code' on Purple Mash. Whilst using the programme, children have revisited what it means to create an algorithm and be able to debug it if it doesn't work the first time. We have had lots of practise trying to spot our mistake and identify which parts of the algorithm need to be changed.</p>
<p><i>MFL</i></p>	<p>Children have enjoyed exploring the unit 'What is your name?'. We practised conversational skills and saying greetings to each other in Spanish, such as 'Hello! What is your name?' 'My name is...'</p> <p>The children have also enjoyed looking at which countries in the world speak Spanish and practising the Spanish alphabet every lesson to make sure they use the correct sounds in speaking lessons.</p>
<p><i>Science</i></p>	<p>This half term, the children have enjoyed learning about Humans and Other Animals. We explored the functions of the human digestive system and created an interactive model for our classroom. Then, we compared human and animal teeth and explored similarities and differences between the two kinds. We also enjoyed looking in more detail at which animals have different teeth to humans due to their diets, such as cows (herbivores) and lions (carnivores).</p>
<p><i>PE</i></p>	<p>Year 4 have been looking at different ways of creating a dance this half term. They were able to create a Spy set phrase by thinking of movements associated with spies. Then, we moved on to creating a dance sequence based on the theme of Solids, Liquids and Gases. The children needed to make sure they created a set phrase for 16 counts. We worked in teams to plan our dance carefully and chose movements to represent each state of matter.</p> <p>Year 4 looked at different gymnastic skills this half term. Children practised shapes, balancing and different ways of travelling. They also mirrored their partner and their actions. They then worked together to create a short sequence with a shape, balance and travelling movement.</p> <p><i>Children then developed their straight, barrel and straddle rolls and their jumping movements, making quarter, half and full turns as they jumped.</i></p>