

**Liden Academy**  
Liden Drive, Swindon, SN3 6EX  
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## **YEAR 4 – Autumn Term 2**

Hello and welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely, restful half term and are looking forward to the term ahead which culminates in Christmas!! Our topic for this half term is focussed around the Geography of “North America!”

### English

In English this term, Year 4 will begin by investigating Maya Angelou’s life and her poem “Still I Rise.” This will lead to us writing our own poem based on bullying, linking well with our PSHE topic and anti-bullying week. We will follow this by returning to writing a narrative based around the Christmas Truce. Our class text this term was chosen by democratic vote! The majority of the children chose “There’s a Werewolf in my Tent!” by Pamela Butchart. We will be reading the text together in a variety of ways and then unpick it using our knowledge of vocabulary, prediction, inference, deduction and summarising skills.



### Maths

In Maths, we will be exploring multiplication and division. We will investigate how they are the inverse of each other and accumulate facts that will allow us to solve mathematical problems relating to real life scenarios. We will be using different strategies and discussing which allows us to have an efficient advantage and which are not so helpful. It is crucial for pupils to explore as many strategies as possible as it will allow them to explore deeper and have a mastery approach when dealing with equations.



### Science

In Science we will be learning all about changing states of materials, solids, liquids and gas. We will be looking at their properties and how they can be changed. We will be doing this with a range of experiments. We will be learning about the water cycle.



### Computing

This term in computing we will be learning about coding.



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### **Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)**



We follow the Jigsaw scheme of work. This term, the topic is “Celebrating Differences”. As part of this, we will be looking at what makes us unique and how we should not judge someone based on our first impressions. In addition, we will look at what constitutes bullying and our roles and responsibilities in reporting this. We will also undertake some activities which help us develop our social skills.

### **Geography**

In geography this term we will be learning about North America. We will be discussing where North America is in the world, what makes the climate unique, why people settle in different parts of the continent and conduct two case studies, one about Manhattan and one about the Grand Canyon.



### **Design Technology**



In DT we will be researching what Pavilions are before designing and creating our own pavilion from lollipop sticks. When we have finished, we will evaluate our finished product against our success criteria.

### **Music**

In Music, we will be focussing on our listening and responding skills. Our topic is “Exploring feelings when you play” and we will listen and appraise a range of different genres of music; look at the differences in major and minor key and recognise the pentatonic scale. We will consider tempo and work on finding and keeping a regular pulse within a piece of music.



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### **Religious Education (R.E.)**



In R.E., we will be studying Christianity. We will be discussing the question “What is the most significant part of the Nativity story for Christians today?” As part of this, we will consider both religious and secular (non-religious) symbols associated with Christmas and what they represent to different people; discuss what is most symbolic to Christians about the Nativity story and create our own Christingles. The topic will end with a creative outlet where the children will be creating their own cross-stitch bookmark of symbols that represent Christmas, or winter. We would love to invite some parents in to help us with this in the final few weeks of term – please keep your eyes peeled for a letter!

### **Physical Education (P.E.)**

In P.E. we are lucky enough to be joined by Miss Park this term who will support us in our gymnastics work. We will be focusing on the fundamentals of gymnastics – thinking about how we walk and act as a gymnast; explore balance using a range of different movements and work in small groups and individually to create routines that move seamlessly from one movement to another.



### **Important information**

Year 4 P.E. is on a **Tuesday** this term. Children should attend school in their P.E. kit on these days.

Homework will be sent home on a **Friday**. This will include maths and spellings. Spelling games will also be set on Spelling Shed. **Please bring the homework in on the following Friday.** As well as this, please read with your child and practise timetables regularly.

All year fours will take part in a government times table check in June and so regular practise will assist them with this. This website is a really useful tool to practise on and is in a similar format to the test: <https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>

We are very much looking forward to an exciting and fulfilling term in the lead up to Christmas. Please feel free to come and speak to your child’s class teacher should you have any further questions or concerns.

Mrs. Davies, Mrs. Uddin, Mrs. Austin & the Year 4 team