Year 4: Autumn Term 1 2026

Destination: Italy!

Driving Question:

How can we persuade people to visit Italy?

Launch:
We will launch our topic by exploring different aspects of Italy. During our Italian themed day we will find out what makes Italy special and investigate their food, art and culture!

Overview:
In our new topic, we will be taking on the role of tour guides! We will be learning about the human and physical Geography of Italy and working together to create a promotional presentation for our Travel Fair to persuade people to visit.



Science
We will be studying about living things and their environments including food chains

Geography
We will explore the human and physical features of Italy and compare the city of Naples with Bournemouth.

English
We will identify the persuasive features needed when creating a speech to encourage visitors to Italy.

Art
We will be studying the work of the artist Da Vinci and will be painting in his style.

Vocabulary:
Italy
capital
continent
ocean
temperature
mountains
human
physical
trade
tourist
compass
Europe
climate

Learning conversations to have at home:

Discuss with your child the word Europe. What is it? Where is it? How many countries are in Europe? Do they know where Italy is in Europe? Use Google Maps or an Atlas at home to locate Italy.

Italy is a peninsula (an area of land that sticks out into the sea). It is surrounded by the Adriatic Sea in the east, the Tyrrhenian Sea in the west and the Ionian Sea to the south. It is a popular holiday destination due to its famous landmarks.

Take a trip to a travel agent or look online and pick up some brochures all about Italy. Which brochures were the most persuasive and why?

Persuasive features: colourful or eye catching, emotive language, alliteration, rhetorical questions, repeated words, snappy slogans, humour.

Topic Home learning:
Create a fact file about a famous Italian city of your choice. This can be presented in any creative way and must include information about that City. For extra house points, create a 3D model of a famous Italian landmark!
Due on or before:
Monday 19th October



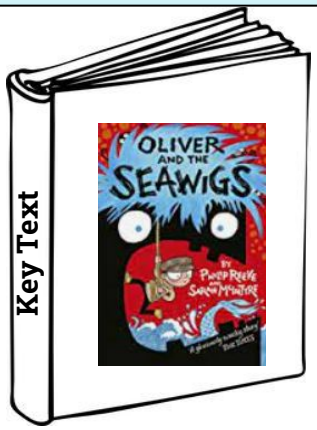
Future Careers:
We will be joined by Preacher the Storyteller each week who will connect our learning of Italy with creative thinking and exploring.

Landing:
We will be sharing our learning in a Travel Fair; showing parents why Italy is a great place to visit, and consolidating our learning for the term.

Reading This term our key text is 'Oliver and the Seawigs' by Phillip Reeve. Oliver grew up in a family of explorers - but his biggest adventure is about to begin! Along with his new friends, a grumpy old albatross, a short sighted mermaid and a friendly island called Cliff, Oliver goes off in search of his missing parents. But before he can put his rescue plan into action there's the evil Stacey de Lacey and an army of pesky sea monkeys to contend with!

What does the front cover make you think of?

Where and when do you think the story is set?



What do you think a Seawig is?

What clues does the front cover give you about the story?

English
- ★ Persuasive writing using conjunctions, adjectives and adverbs.
- ★ Subordinating conjunctions
- ★ Paragraphs

How can you help at home?
- ➔ Explore subordinating conjunctions at home by using this link and having a go at the quiz at the end.
  Create sentences using adverbs to add more detail.

Maths
- ★ Compare and order 4 digit numbers
- ★ Partitioning and rounding to the nearest 1000
- ★ Addition and subtraction.

How can you help at home?
- ➔ Encourage your child to practice their times tables for 10 mins a day on TTRockstars
- ➔ When you are out shopping ask your child to add up two numbers mentally

Science
We will be learning about living things and their environments including habitats and food chains.

Geography
We will be learning about and identifying human and physical features of Italy.

Music
We will be exploring digital sound, effects and atmosphere through the unit Spooky Stories.

PSHE
We will be learning all about 'Being me in my World' and will create our class charter.

Art
We will be learning all about the work of Van Gogh and will be painting in his style.

Computing
We will be using a range of online resources to research and create our presentations about Italy.

English
To write a narrative based on the story of 'Gorilla'

Physical Education
We will be learning about balance in gymnastics and cricket with 'Chance to shine' cricket coaches.

Spanish
We will be exploring vocabulary around the topic of fruits in Spanish.

Religious Education
We will be exploring Buddhism and the question: 'Is it possible for everyone to be happy?'

Dates for the diary

Monday 19th October – topic home learning due in.
Wednesday 9th October 2:45 - Welcome to Year 4 Parent Meeting.