

Year 4 English Basic Skills:

The skills we will work on throughout Year 4 come from the National Curriculum:

Reading

- Apply their growing knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes (etymology and morphology)
- Read further exception words, noting the unusual correspondences between spelling and sound, and where these occur in the word.
- Listen to and discuss a wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks
- Read books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes
- Use dictionaries to check the meaning of words that they have read
- Increase their familiarity with a wide range of books, including fairy stories, myths and legends, and retell some of these orally
- Identify themes and conventions in a wide range of books
- Prepare poems and play scripts to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone, volume and action
- Discuss words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination
- Recognise some different forms of poetry [for example, free verse, and narrative poetry]
- Check that the text makes sense to them, discuss their understanding and explain the meaning of words in context
- Ask questions to improve their understanding of a text
- Draw inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence
- Predict what might happen from details stated and implied
- Identify main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and summarising these
- Identify how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning
- Retrieve and record information from non-fiction texts
- Participate in discussion about both books that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say

Writing

- Use further prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them
- Spell further homophones
- Spell words that are often misspelt
- Place the possessive apostrophe accurately in words with regular plurals [for example, girls', boys'] and in words with irregular plurals [for example, children's]
- Use the first two or three letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary
- Write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far
- Use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left un joined
- Increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting
- Discuss writing similar to that which they are planning to write in order to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar
- Discuss and record ideas

- Compose and rehearse sentences orally (including dialogue), progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence structures
- Organise paragraphs around a theme
- In narratives, creating settings, characters and plot
- In non-narrative material, using simple organisational devices [for example, headings and sub-headings]
- Assess the effectiveness of their own and others' writing and suggesting improvements
- Propose changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistency, including the accurate use of pronouns in sentences
- Proof-read for spelling and punctuation errors
- Read aloud their own writing, to a group or the whole class, using appropriate intonation and controlling the tone and volume so that the meaning is clear
- Extend the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, including when, if, because, although
- Use the present perfect form of verbs in contrast to the past tense
- Choose nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition
- Use conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause
- Use fronted adverbials
- Use commas after fronted adverbials
- Indicate possession by using the possessive apostrophe with plural nouns
- Use and punctuating direct speech
- Use and understand grammatical terminology accurately and appropriately when discussing their writing and reading.

KILMORIE
PRIMARY SCHOOL