



Year 4 – Kingfishers

A Tale of Two Rivers

Summer 2nd 2026

Topic Overview:

Our exciting new topic this half-term is called A Tale of Two Rivers. During this geography-based topic, Year 4 will journey across Europe to compare the River Seine in Paris and the River Vltava in Prague, discovering how rivers shape cities and the lives of the people who live there. We will explore river features, famous landmarks and the uses of rivers for travel, trade and tourism. Along the way, we will investigate the theft of the Mona Lisa, study paintings of Honfleur by Claude Monet and Eugène Boudin before creating our own watercolour artwork, and listen to *The Moldau* by Bedřich Smetana as inspiration for our own music and dance performances.

Topic Hook:

To write and create a performance poetry piece about water

Topic Outcome:

Watercolour painting class gallery

What's being covered?

English	Performance poetry, Shakespeare performance, Persuasive brochure	
Maths	Time, Shape, Statistics, Position and Direction	
	Topic	Skills
Geography	Rivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region in a European country Describe and understand key aspects of rivers and the water cycle Use 4 figure grid references, symbols and a key
Art	Exploring Still Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the work of contemporary and more traditional artists who work within the still life genre. Express my thoughts about other artists' work, and talk about the meanings of objects as artists present them. Use my sketchbook to make visual notes, record and reflect. Draw from observation and think about how I can use line, colour, shape, texture, form and composition to make my artwork interesting. Present and share my artwork, and explain how my sketchbook work helped build my knowledge and skills towards my final piece.
Music	Reflect, Rewind, Replay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sing and play instrumental parts Improvise using voices and/or instruments Perform composition within the song
Science	States of matter, including the water cycle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify solids, liquids and gases using their properties. Describe melting, freezing, condensing and evaporating. Describe the different stages of the water cycle. Describe how temperature affects the rate of evaporation and, therefore, the water cycle.
Computing	Programming: Repetition in games	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Predict the outcome of a snippet of code Modify a snippet of code to create a given outcome Modify loops to produce a given outcome Choose when to use a count-controlled and an infinite loop

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose which action will be repeated for each object • Identify which parts of a loop can be changed • Refine the algorithm in my design
PSHE	Safety and the changing body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the reasons for legal age restrictions. • Understand how quickly information can spread on the internet and some of the risks associated with that. • Assess and give first aid to a casualty who is having difficulty breathing due to an asthma attack. • Understand the difference between private and public, and secrets and surprises. • Understand how search engines work and whether information is useful. • Understand the changes we have already gone through and aware of some changes to come. • Understand that we will change physically as we develop into adults. • Understand some of the risks of smoking and some of the benefits of being a non-smoker.
RE	What does sacrifice mean?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe different philosophical and theological answers to questions about sacrifice • Identify ways in which beliefs about sacrifice influence the ways Christians and Muslims see the world • Identify ways in which beliefs about sacrifice impact the actions of Christians and Muslims • Give reasons for more than one point of view on the importance of sacrifice, providing pieces of the evidence to support these views in both philosophy and sacred texts
PE	Tennis Rounders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop racket and ball control • Develop returning the ball using a forehand and understand when to use it • Develop the backhand and understand when to use it • Keep a continuous rally going showing increased technique • Use and apply rules and simple tactics • Develop bowling and learn the rules of the skill within this game • Develop batting technique and understand where to hit the ball • Develop fielding techniques and apply them to game situations • Play different roles in a game and begin to think tactically about each role
French	Write about myself	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn some nouns that can be found in the garden • Learn about possessive adjectives • Learn to create a negative statement using the adverb ne... pas • Practise making compound sentences using the conjunctions ou or et • Revise and practice questions and answers about the 4 countries of the UK • Revise and practise questions and answers about myself and where I live • Write about myself, my home and garden and where I live