

Year 4 Spring Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

What an eventful Autumn term we have had! First there was the Parent Workshop, the Carol Concert, purchased contributions for the Christmas Fayre, you were generous enough to provide toiletries towards the Reverse Calendar (Father Hudson's), enjoyed the Christmas party afternoon, and much more. Year 4 have settled well into routines and expectations and we are enthusiastic for what this term may hold for us.

We look forward to continue to work collaboratively to ensure that your child achieves their God-given potential. If you have any questions throughout the year, please do not hesitate to ask:

Miss Homer, Miss Yearwood, Miss Harris-Benjamin and Mrs Grainger.

ENGLISH

For this half term, children will be reading the Jody and the Beanstalk, Jack and the Beanstalk and The Three Little pigs. These texts will support children to develop their knowledge of punctuating dialogue between characters, use metaphors to describe a character and write a narrative. Also, children use inference skills, collate evidence for a balanced argument with a conclusion.

English

For this half term, teachers will expect children to continue to strive for excellent handwriting and spelling; with the aim to continue to have outstanding presentation in books. There will be plenty of writing opportunities through having Arts Week, where we will begin to focus on: Jody and the Beanstalk and the Fairy tale, The Three Little Pigs, as well as reading our class text.

This half term, we will be focusing on different styles of writing including: different, newspaper reports, diary entries and recounts. Additionally, children will be using grammar imbed their learning of expanded noun phrases, collective nouns, apostrophes for contraction and possession, so that they can be embedded into their writing.

Guided Reading

Children the non-fiction texts: Europe, Dental Hygiene and Scandinavia. These texts will support children to develop their knowledge of vocabulary and its meaning, retrieve information from a text and summarise sections of the text.

MATHS

During Spring term, children will be focusing learning about length and perimeter. Children will develop their expertise to understand what is measured in kilometres and metres. Children will improve their knowledge of calculating the perimeter of polygons and rectilinear shapes.

Multiplication

From May/June (date to be confirmed), children will be sitting a National Multiplication Test, which will test children on their multiplication knowledge up to 12x tables. They only have 6 second per question and will have 25 questions to answer. As a result of this, this year there will be a massive push on children learning their times tables, where they will be required to be quick and fluent. Children will practice their times tables every Maths lesson and will be encouraged to use Times table Rockstars at home.

RE

For this half term, our unit is called **Unit F: The story of Moses.** In this unit, children will explore the stories of the Burning Bush, Moses the Pharaoh and the Plagues, the story of Moses leading the Israelites to freedom, and the parting of the Red Sea. They will explore that Moses was given the Ten Commandments by Jesus for all the Jewish people to follow

Additionally, children will be spend time completing collective worships and attending Mass (most Wednesday's) at Church. Parents are always welcome to celebrate school Mass with us.

Our virtues for this half term are Grateful and Generous.



THEMATIC

During spring, we will be focusing on Geography as our topic is called, "How can I use map skills to learn about my locality?" We will use maps, atlases and digital mapping to locate settlements and describe their features. Pupils will use the eight points on the compass alongside using four-figure grid references, symbols and keys.

They will use digital maps to observe, record and identify human and physical features in their local settlement.

During our final weeks of the term, children will be comparing the physical and human features including land use, economic activity and tourism.

ART and D+T

This half term, we will be focusing on art as we begin to study, Claude Monet. We will be using our sketch books to begin to explore his life and how he made 'Impressionist' Art popular during the 19th century. Following this, we will use different materials to recreate some of his most famous art pieces.

WB: 27/01/2020- DT and Art Week (Harry Potter Theme)

Computing

During this half term, we will continue to look at E-Safety and understanding the importance of staying safe online. We will be exploring why some games have an age restriction and using the SMART steps to stay safe online.

As well as this, we will be exploring what physical controlling systems are and how they are used in computing across the world.

Spanish

This half term, children will be continue to speak and understand one of the world's most spoken languages. Children will have knowledge and skills necessary to perform a short role-play in a Spanish café using greetings. In addition, children speak about various plants and animals that live in five very different habitats. This unit will encourage slightly more complex and sophisticated writing using a wider range of vocabulary.

SCIENCE

During the first half of this term, Year 4 is learning about Animals (including teeth). They will begin to examine the types of teeth that we have, their function and the importance of keeping them healthy.

PE

For taught lessons in spring, children will be doing Gymnastics and dance. Children will also be taught the importance of health and fitness within these lessons.

Please ensure that PE kits are worn on the allocated days.

Spring 1 Timetable

Mary 4 - Wednesday (Gymnastics)/ Friday (Dance)

John 4 - Wednesday (Gymnastics)/ Friday (Dance)

Kit

All children will be expected to wear a red t-shirt, black tracksuit bottoms/shorts and pumps.

Music

This year, children will continue to have weekly guitar lessons provided by the music service (Tuesday afternoons).

As inspiring musicians children will continue to foster their creativity and love for music.

They will showcase their musical talents and progress in the Summer school concert.

Home

Homework is sent out every Friday. Please ensure that this is completed via Purplemash by the following Tuesday each week.

Reading

Due to the increased expectations as they start Year 4, children will be expected to read **every night** (Monday to Thursday). This will be checked in the morning by an adult. Parents need to sign your child's reading diary, by writing the date, pages that they have read and a signature. Comments are needed for when they are due to change their books, so we can understand how children are reading at home.

Times tables

By the end of Year 4 (in preparation for their multiplication test), all children will need to recall all of their times tables up to 12 with speed and accuracy. As a result of this, children will be encouraged participate in regular Times table Rockstars challenges alongside practice at home on TTrackstars.

Uniform

All children **must** wear the appropriate school uniform which includes school shirt and tie alongside the suitable school shoes.

If there is anything you are unsure about, please do not hesitate to talk to us at 3.35pm.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to another great year ahead!

Miss Homer, Miss Yearwood, Miss Harris-Benjamin and Mrs Grainger

Year 4 team.