

# Year 4 Class Newsletter

## Term 2

We hope you all had a lovely half term. We are looking forward to starting lots of new topics with the children in school.

### English

Our English lessons this term will be based on the picture book *Escape From Pompeii*. The children will write stories with an historical setting based around this story as well as exploring descriptive vocabulary. We will also learn about how to write explanations, linking this to our work in Geography on volcanoes.

### Maths

This term, our maths lessons will focus on addition and subtraction, moving on to using these strategies when solving word problems. We will then learn about fractions and decimals, perimeter and time. We will also continue consolidating knowledge of the times tables learned so far, and learning the remaining facts up to 12 x 12.

### Science

Our science topic for this term is states of matter. As part of this topic, we will learn about solids, liquids and gases, experimenting with changing state, and learning about the water cycle.

### PE

This term, our PE lessons will be on a Tuesday. Each Tuesday, **the children should come to school in their PE kit, which they will stay in all day**. This will mean that they won't need to get changed in school and will reduce the risk of others accidentally touching their clothing or putting on items belonging to others. Please make sure that your child is wearing a suitable PE kit for the weather that day, such as a t-shirt, shorts and trainers for warm and sunny weather, or a tracksuit and trainers for colder weather.

### Foundation Subjects

Computing – Quizzes, using the programme Scratch

D&T – Making pizzas

History – Roman Britain

Geography - Volcanoes

Music – Gospel singing based around the song Lean on Me

RE – We will be answering the question- 'Why is Jesus inspiring to some people?'

PSHE – Celebrating Differences

French – Expanding on the range of animals we know and considering common French spelling patterns as well as learning some Christmas songs in French.

### **Reading**

Reading is an important part of the curriculum and, as such, we believe that continuing to read with your child daily can improve their reading skills significantly. Therefore, we would appreciate it if you could read with your child as often as possible. This does not have to be your child reading to you, it could include sharing a book and discussing the content, as this helps tremendously with comprehension.

This year, instead of the bookmarks, each child has been given their own reading record for you to record when they have read. Please make sure that your child brings their reading record to school each day so that we can also record when we have heard them read.

### **Homework**

Children will continue to receive the following homework weekly:

- Spellings
- Reading
- Times Tables (aiming to know them all up to 12 x 12 by the end of the year)

In addition to this, there will be optional homework that can be completed in relation to the work we are doing in school. This can be handed in at any time during the term. The following are a list of ideas for your child to choose from:

- Make your own model of a volcano. You could even make one that erupts! There are lots of ideas online for ways that you can do this.
- Write a newspaper report about the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and the destruction of Pompeii. You could record yourself presenting this as either a radio or TV news report if you prefer.
- Research recipes that include melting as part of the method and cook something tasty for your family.
- Try to move up a level on Times Table Rockstars by the end of term.
- Make some Christmas Nativity art – this could be a 3D model, a collage, a painting or a pop-up book.
- Practise your Roman numerals at home by making a worksheet for another member of your family to complete – you could ask them to identify different numerals, write numbers in Roman numerals or even give them some calculations to do.

Please make sure that your child comes to school with a drink bottle every day as we do not have access to water fountains at present. We are also required to keep the classrooms well ventilated so please make sure your child has their school jumper during the colder weather.

Remember, if at any time you have any concerns about your child, please feel free to contact the office to make an appointment to speak to us.

With best wishes,

Mrs Watts and Mrs Akroyd