

Year 4 Class Newsletter

Term 1

We are delighted to welcome the children into Year 4! We are really looking forward to getting to know them and learning lots of new things together.

English

This term, we will begin by writing persuasive letters, inspired by our class reader, *The Accidental Prime Minister*. Later in the term, we will learn about diary entries. We will also have plenty of opportunities to develop our spelling, grammar and punctuation, practise our speaking and listening skills through drama and role play, and to build up our writing stamina by writing some longer pieces.



Maths

This term, our Maths lessons will focus on place value, measures, telling the time and calculation strategies. Over the year, the children will be consolidating their knowledge of the times tables learned so far, before learning the remaining facts up to 12 x 12 so that they can recall them fluently.

Science

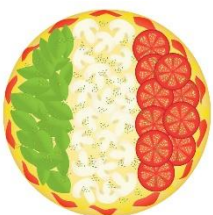
Our Science topic for this term is Humans and Other Animals. As part of this topic we will learn about the human digestive system and the different types of teeth.

PE

This term, our PE lessons will be on a Monday. Each Monday, **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. Please don't worry if you forget, or if children are wearing PE kit and we don't end up doing the lesson – sometimes circumstances in school can require us to be flexible with our time table.

Foundation Subjects

Computing – In our computing lessons, we will be using different computer programmes to create our own animations.



DT – We will be learning about Italian foods! We will taste different food and will research, design, make and evaluate pizzas.

History – This term, we will be finding out about the Romans, their invasion of Britain and their lasting legacy in our country.

Music – We will use the Charanga scheme to practise learning to play the glockenspiel.

RE – Through our RE lessons, we will be answering the question ‘What do different people believe about God?’

PSHE – Our Jigsaw unit for this term is ‘Being Me in My World’. Our mascot this term is the Responsible Robin. The children will learn about what it means to be a responsible citizen.

Latin – We will begin our new language lessons by learning about the Latin origin of many of our English words and spelling patterns.

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 we are introducing online reading records. Details of this will be in a separate letter.



Homework

At home, it benefits the children greatly to practise reading, their times tables and their spellings as often as possible, so the children will continue to receive the following homework:

- Spellings
- Reading
- Times Tables

This year, each class has a set of spelling patterns to focus on throughout the year. Some spelling patterns will be learned and practised over several weeks. Spelling words will still be sent home in spelling books on a Monday, but the children’s progress will be assessed in class when appropriate, rather than through weekly spelling tests. Children are encouraged to practise the spelling words in their books and to bring them in each week so that the new words can be added.

Times tables can be practised using Times Table Rock Stars and the following website:

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>

<https://trockstars.com/>

We will be using these in school so the children should be familiar with how to use them.

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:

- Research Julius Caesar - see if you can find out 10 facts about him and present them in an interesting way (e.g. a poster, a mini book, an audio recording).
- The Romans spoke a language called Latin. Can you find out some Latin words for different things (e.g. place names, animals or colours)? Maybe you could teach them to the rest of us in school!
- Use junk modelling and craft materials to make your own Roman shield and sword.
- In Science, we are going to be learning about what happens to the food we eat. Find out about the diets of different animals and how they are suited to finding and eating this food, thinking in particular about what their teeth are like.
- It is really important to keep practising our times tables. Make a poster or a wall chart that you could put up in your room to help you remember the ones you find tricky.
- If you read a book at home and think the rest of the class would enjoy it, write a book review about it. We could put it up in our book corner for the rest of the class to see.

We look forward to working with you and your child this year. Remember, if at any time you have any concerns about your child, please feel free to contact the office to make an appointment to see us.

With best wishes,

Mrs Watts and Mrs Akroyd