

Year Four Curriculum Newsletter – Spring 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! After a well-deserved holiday, the children are back at school and are settled in to their routines. I am very much looking forward to this term as we have many exciting things planned.

English

Writing – We are starting the term off by looking at persuasive writing. We are aiming to write our own text to persuade holiday goers to venture to The Americas. Just a warning though – we are becoming extremely persuasive individuals!

Reading- It is lovely to read the positive comments that you are all writing in the reading record books. Daily home reading makes a huge difference to the progress your child makes in all areas of the curriculum and so it is important that the children are reading 10 pages of their book per night. Please encourage your children to read books right through to the end. Our class read for the term is Max and the Millions by Ross Montgomery, we are well on our way with the text and we are all loving it!

Spelling- In Year 4 spelling is becoming increasingly important. We are learning to become more independent with our spellings and we are using dictionaries to make sure our spelling is superb. Your child will bring home a list of spellings each week. The weekly spelling test will be on a Friday.

Handwriting - We take pride in our handwriting and presentation and we are working very hard to make sure that we complete our work to the highest of standards. I am constantly monitoring handwriting and hoping to award as many children as possible with a pen license. Please encourage your child to practise their handwriting at every available opportunity.

Maths- This half term, our main focus will be on multiplication and division. We work so hard with our Maths so I know we are up to the challenge! We will be applying our multiplication knowledge to the topic of area and then moving on to fractions.

As you are aware, the children will sit a statutory times tables test at the end of the year and this is the first year that the test has officially ran throughout the country. The children have all learnt up to the 12 times table in school but the children will benefit greatly from any additional support you can give them to reinforce these times tables. With constant repetition, the children will become able to answer questions with ease and speed. Children need to be answering over 300 correct answers on Times Tables Rock Stars each week.

Science- We are excited about our new topic of 'Sound'. Already we have learnt the parts of the ear!

P.E.- PE will be on a Tuesday and Friday. The children have been fantastic over the past few weeks during their swimming lessons. I am so proud of the progress they have made. The children will return to swimming after February half term.

R.E. – In RE, we will be studying The Trinity and what it means to Christians. We are beginning to look at the significance of Baptism and will continue to explore the role that The Trinity plays within the ceremony.

Geography - Our new topic is the Americas. We will be working on our map skills and looking at the contrasts between our country and American countries. I am really excited to teach this topic and I am hoping that we will be able to put on a fantastic assembly in the near future for you all to see!

Homework- Homework will be monitored Thursday-Thursday. I ask that the children complete assigned tasks on Times Tables Rock Stars, Reading Eggs and Mathletics. Please let me know if your child has difficulty accessing a computer. Spellings will run Friday – Friday. Although I teach spelling patterns in class, it will really accelerate progress if spellings are also practised at home.

I am easily contactable and I want to help in whatever way I can. If there is a problem please don't hesitate to ring school or catch me on the playground.

Miss R Humphrey
Year 4 teacher