

# Year 4's Newsletter

## Autumn Term 2019



**Welcome back to you all!**

I hope that you have all had a wonderful summer and that your children are glad to be back. We have had a fantastic first week back at school!

### English

We will be studying a range of text types throughout the term including non-chronological reports, fictional novels and poetry as well as a range of extended writing linked to our WWII topic. We will develop our use of punctuation and sentence structure and write both short and extended pieces. The curriculum places a real emphasis on Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPAG) and so many of our starter activities will focus on consolidating and extending our grammatical knowledge. In terms of reading, the children will be partaking in a number of whole class reading based activities throughout the week ranging from structured reading sessions, newspapers, comprehension activities and library time.

### Mathematics

In Maths, children will develop and build upon skills from Y3. We will consolidate our existing understanding of place value up to 4 digits. We will also be learning formal written methods for both addition and subtraction, before focusing on new written methods to calculate multiplication and division. We will be striving to learn our times tables especially as the curriculum states that by end of Year 4 children should know up to and including the twelve times table! If you could spare any time at home to support and encourage your child to learn their times tables this would be greatly appreciated. Times Table Rock star is great for this!

### Science

The Science topics to be covered this term are 'States of Matter' and 'Sound'. We will be exploring solids, liquids and gases and also investigating sound, covering vibrations, soundproofing, pitch and loudness.

### R.E.

This term we will be studying three themes: Domestic Church (People), Reconciliation (Sacramental Preparation) and Advent/Christmas (Gift). The children will be learning about Jesus's human family and God's gift of love and friendship. In Year 4, we will be looking to John 4: 9 for inspiration *"God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him."* Mrs Peacock will be teaching this subject.



### P.E.

PE days are Thursday and Friday.

This term we will work on developing our pace and stamina when focusing on distance running. We will also be learning Indian dance movements and the children will choreograph their own Indian style dance. Please make sure all children have a pair of trainers in school.

### Home learning

Children will receive a homework menu which includes a variety of activities. Children are required to choose and complete three activities before half term. The homework menu also includes weekly spellings to practise at home which will be tested on a Thursday afternoon. The children will be bringing home a book suitable for their reading level as part of their structured reading. Please encourage your child to read this at home. Alongside this, the children will also bring home a reading record book. Children are expected to bring their reading book and record into school every day with a date and comment to show that they have read.

### History and Geography

For Autumn term the Year 4 topic is 'World War II.' The children will learn about the beginning of the war, the different leaders involved, the blitz, rationing and evacuation. They will also research what life was like using primary and secondary sources. During this topic we will also develop our map skills to identify and locate the countries involved in World War II on a map.

### Design Technology & Art

Our DT and Art work will be mostly linked to our Topic – World War II. We will practise and refine sketching and drawing skills when investigating World War II aircrafts. We will also attempt to recreate the London skyline as it was at the time of World War II for our class display. For DT, the children will design, make and evaluate a replica gas mask and carry box.

### Computing

In the first half of this term Class 4 will be given the task to design and create an educational game taking the role as 'Software developers.' In the second half of the term the children will be designing toys using 'Scratch' software.

### Music

The children will have music sessions with Mr Harbisher from Tees Valley Music Service every Monday.

### French

The children will have a weekly session of French every Friday where they will learn more about the French language and culture.

### General

We visit the Library on **Thursday afternoons**. Children may loan a book for a week. Please could you check that all of your child's school uniform (including PE kit and water bottle) is clearly labelled with their names. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see me. Otherwise I look forward to seeing you at parents evening in October.

Many thanks, Miss O'Kell