



Year 4 Newsletter - Advent Term 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 4. I hope you all had a great summer. I am really looking forward to teaching your children again this year. Here is an overview of what we will be learning this half term.

General Information

P.E

Lessons will be on Monday and Thursday although P.E. kits should be kept in school so that they are available everyday if needed. Earrings or watches must not be worn for PE, and long hair should be tied back.

Reading books

The children should be reading their allocated reading scheme book every day at home. When they have finished reading the book they can change it at school the next day. The minimum expectation is three reads at home each week and the children will receive a green line in their reading record and a bead, every Monday morning. Beads will be collected on a string to create a necklace over the course of the year. Less than three reads will result in an orange line. Two consecutive orange lines will mean your child will stay in at playtime and read.

Weekly tests

The children will have a spelling and times table test every Friday. A list of spellings and test details will be sent home at the beginning of each half term and can be found at the back of their Reading Record.

Homework

This will be given out on a Friday and should be completed and returned to school by the following Wednesday.

Maths

Our two topics this half term are Place Value and Addition and Subtraction.

Times Tables

Throughout the year we will be preparing the children for the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) assessment that all the children, in Year 4, will be completing during the Summer Term. To prepare them for this we will be having a weekly test on a given times table and details about this will be sent home at the beginning of each half term. We will also use two Top Marks games - Hit the Button and Daily 10 and White Rose 1 Minute Maths. These are available as apps on your phone as practising little and often will support in the preparation for the speed required to answer the questions in the test at the end of the year.

English

We will begin by reading 'The Selfish Giant' by Oscar Wilde and will explore Letter writing, first person recounts, diaries, posters and reports.

We then move onto The Iron Man by Ted Hughes. Writing will include reports, character descriptions, letters of advice, a diary, a menu and own version mystery narrative.

In grammar we will focus on determiners, clauses, conjunctions, adverbs, prepositions, direct speech and past tense.

Our spellings will focus on words ending in -sion, -ssion and -cian and learning some of the Year 3 and 4 words.

RE

We will start the half term with a week looking at another faith - Judaism.

Our first topic is then Creation and Covenant with a focus on scriptures relating to Abraham from the Old Testament.

Music

This year we will be learning to play the Ukulele which will be taught by Miss Pattinson, a peripatetic music teacher. The children will be able to borrow a ukulele from the school, further details to follow, which will need to be available in school for their lesson every Tuesday.

Science

Our topic is Living Things and their Habitats. We will look at how to group plants and animals, create and use keys and collect and analyse data

Computing

Our topic will be focusing on Internet Safety. We will discuss and explore:

- How to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly
- A range of ways to report concerns and inappropriate behaviour
- How to use search technologies effectively
- How results are selected and ranked and be discerning in evaluating digital content.

Art/ D&T

We will be focusing on art this half term and learning how to draw still life with the artist Cezanne as our inspiration.

History

We will be learning about the Anglo-Saxons and Scots. We will find out how, why and where the Anglo-Saxons and Scots invaded Britain, the influence of the Anglo-Saxons in England, key aspects of Anglo-Saxon village life and finally the conversion to Christianity

French

Our first topic is Les Animaux, with the children learning the names of some everyday animals.

PSHE

Our topics are:

- Being Safe
- Exploring Emotions

If you have any questions, then please do not hesitate to contact me via Class Dojo or in person at the end of the school day.

Mrs Currie