

Spring Term 2024 – Year 4 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy new year, and welcome back after the Christmas holidays. It is so wonderful to see the children back in school. The children have had a good start this week, and we are so proud of them for settling well after two weeks' holidays, continuing to apply the rules and routines of Key Stage 2 and engaging in learning with enthusiasm. Across the year, we have planned many exciting experiences with cross-curricular links and opportunities which we are looking forward to sharing with both the children and yourselves. Below gives you an overview of the different subjects across the curriculum.

English

We will be looking at fantasy stories, newspaper articles, traditional tales and balanced arguments. We will also be learning spelling and grammar rules. Children will now be bringing home books to read, so please continue encouraging children to read at home. You will be able to add comments into their Reading Record booklets to share your reading experiences with us. We encourage children to read daily in school and at home as it truly enriches their vocabulary, imagination and knowledge.

Maths

The focus in maths this term is consolidating the 4 operations, area, length and perimeter, fractions and decimals, whilst developing our reasoning and problem solving skills. Please support your children in practising their times tables regularly on MathsShed and Rockstars Times Tables. This will build up their confidence and skills before completing the Multiplication Times Tables Check (MTC) in Summer 2.

Science

In spring 1, children will study states of matter. In spring 2, they will learn about sound.

Geography/History/RE

Our topic for this term in geography is a local study about the UK, where we will learn about the culture, do some map work and compare it to other countries. In history, children will be learning about Anglo-Saxons. In RE, children will learn about 'Why is Jesus inspiring to some people?' and 'What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today?'

Computing

Our topic is 'data handling' in spring 1 and online safety. In spring 2, we will be doing work on programming, which builds their computational thinking skills.

Modern Foreign Languages - Spanish

For this year, we will be learning Spanish with Mrs Steadman. This term, we will focus on traditional stories and sports.

Physical Education (PE)

We will be working on invasion games, controlling and receiving as well as on dance, creating a story. Children will have two PE lessons each week, and these will be:

- **in 4 Spain on Tuesdays and Thursdays**
- **in 4 Italy on Wednesdays and Fridays**
- **in 4 Denmark on Mondays and Thursdays**

Children should wear the correct PE uniform to school on their PE days- navy blue joggers, a white t-shirt and black trainers or plimsolls. No leggings.

PSHE

We will be looking at safety and the changing body and citizenship.

Music

During the spring term, children will be learning about the Hanami Festival (Haiku, music and performance) and Rock and Roll.

Art & DT

In Art, children will develop their sketching skills with colour pencils, creating a self-portrait. In D&T, they will explore textiles and make a wallet.

Homework

Homework will be given out every Friday, and children should return the completed homework by the following Wednesday. In addition, weekly homework will also include spellings on Spelling Shed, 4 operations practise on Maths Shed, and multiplications practise on Rockstars Timestables. Children will also begin taking reading books home alongside their reading record booklet, encouraging them to read for pleasure and sharing their experiences.

Important Information

Soft start begins **at 8:40 a.m.** and **finishes at 3.10 p.m.** All the children should be in the classroom for the **8.50 a.m. lesson start**. Please arrive promptly so your child does not miss any school days.

Supporting your child with their times tables, the related division facts, number bonds and 4 operations will continue to assist them in making progress in their maths lessons.

Children should read at home for at least 15-20 minutes daily. Please encourage them to do this regularly.

Please encourage your child to go to bed at a reasonable time in order for them to function properly the next day. Lack of sleep has a detrimental effect on learning.

Finally, a polite reminder that children need to be in full school uniform at all times. Ties can be purchased from the office. Please ensure all belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name and class.

Sustainable Travel to School - Scooter Pods and Bike Shelters

Whenever possible, we encourage children to walk to school. However, if they also use other sustainable means of travel, such as a scooter or a bike, we have scooter pods and bike shelters available for the children to lock them away safely.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our children to achieve their full potential.

Ms. Ayton
4 Spain

Mrs Nwankwo
4 Italy

Miss Appadoo
4 Denmark