



Class 4

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term; we hope that you have had a wonderful break. We are looking forward to what is going to be a very busy few weeks, as we make our way towards Christmas. Here is a snapshot of the things that we will be doing.

English

We are really enjoying reading *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* and will continue with this book for another week, using the pictures to create our own comic strips. Our focus will then be on non-fiction texts linked to our Science topic 'Bang!' We will look at the features of non-chronological reports and explanation texts before writing our own.

Each morning we will have a 20-minute grammar or spelling activity; we hope this will enhance the children's writing further.

Maths

In Maths, we will be covering a range of topics, starting with perimeter and area. We will then move onto organising data into tables and bar charts. Multiplication and division will be revisited as Year 4 is a very important year for times tables, with children expected to know all of them up to 12 X 12 by the end of the year. We continue to ask that your children spend at least 20 minutes on Mathletics each week. Don't forget our amazing new TT Rockstars games.

Geography

This half term we will be looking at the seven continents of the world using atlases, globes and digital sources. We will then focus on Africa before taking a closer look at modern day Egypt. The children will locate the source of the River Nile and understand how important the river is to the Egyptian people.

Science and Computing

In Science, we will be learning about sounds, how the sound travels to our ear drums, how sound is linked to vibrations and how volume is effected by the strength of the vibration. In Computing, we will use the Purple Mash scheme to advance our understanding of spreadsheets.

PHSE and RE

In RE, we are going to be finding out what it means to belong. We will also explore the different faiths in our local area. In PSHE we will be discussing healthy relationships and feelings. We will also be learning about valuing difference.

PE

We will be going swimming on a Friday afternoon throughout this year. Our PE lesson will be on a Tuesday and we will be doing gymnastics. Your child will need a **fully-labelled** PE kit, including correct footwear, in school for these days to participate. As per the school policy, long hair must be tied up and earrings removed for swimming or taped up

Art and Music

We are going to be looking at Album covers and the art and artists who create them. We will also be listening to the music, evaluating it and creating music of our own.

Important Dates this half term:

Parents meeting for Bradley Wood residential – Weds 6th Nov
Family sharing – Thurs 21st Nov
FONS movie night – Tues 12th Nov
Christmas production – Weds 18th Dec



Ways to help your child in Year 4:

As Year 4 is an important year for learning all times tables up to 12 X 12, it would be great if you could test your child as often as you can. We will be fitting in as much practice as we can in school! In light of this we have purchased TT Rockstars, for school. Your child will have brought home their personal log in and can access a selection of games to help with their knowledge of times tables. It also looks at the division knowledge too. Please encourage your child to spend some time on this, as well as Mathletics. We will be using the TT Rockstars in class too. Let's see if we get any Rock Heroes by the end of the year!

This year we have decided to eliminate the weekly spelling test and instead children will be expected to learn and use, in their independent writing, the year 4 spelling list as set out in the National Curriculum. We will focus on different spelling rules each week in our English lessons.

Also, ask your child what grammar rule they are learning each week. This year they need to be able to identify, define and give examples of conjunctions, nouns, pronouns, adjectives, adverbs, verbs, determiners and prepositions.

It is important that children still read with an adult as often as possible. In class, they will read with the teacher and a supporting adult on a rotating basis. If you could also read with them at home as often as you can, this will greatly help their comprehension skills as well as helping them widen their vocabulary for writing. Please could you write in their planner when they have read at home.

In addition, we will set tasks on Mathletics for your children to complete at home but they will also be able to work through the different sections at their own pace, earning rewards and certificates as they do.

Finally, we will communicate any homework via their planner, so please ensure it is brought to school every day.

Thank you, as always, for your support.

Miss Watkins and Mrs Kendal.