

# Year 4 Newsletter

Autumn 1 2020/21



**ENGAGE**

**INSPIRE**

**EMPOWER**

Welcome back. We are so excited to see all of the children back in school after what has been a difficult time for us all. They have quickly settled back into school and we have been really impressed with their attitude and enthusiasm towards their learning.

**Our topic this term is:**

## ROMAN RULE



**During this topic the children will:**

Use primary and secondary sources of information to learn about whom the Romans were and where they came from as well as identify features of Roman entertainment, Roman gladiators, the Roman Army and the main Emperors of Rome.

Explore key concepts related to 'invading' and 'settling'.

Understand what made the Roman Army so powerful and formidable.

Use their scientific knowledge of forces and their design technology skills to make their own Roman catapult.

Understand the factors that led to the fall of the Roman Empire.

Identify how the Romans have influenced our lives today.

Investigate the significance of Mosaic Art in Roman times and to experiment with this technique.

Explore the impact of Roman beliefs in relation to Roman Gods.

## Parent Consultations

Parent consultations will take place over the phone. If you would like to book a consultation to discuss your child's progress, you can do so on our class pages on the website.

## Important Dates

Thursday 24th September 2020—Individual School Photos

Friday 25th September 2020—Jeans for Genes Day

## Homework

The POWER project for this half-term is now on our class pages on the school website. For this half-term this project will be optional. We will not be sending home reading and writing journals however we encourage all of the children to read at home for at least 20 minutes each day. We will send home spellings each week and have a weekly spelling test in school on Mondays.

## The Year 4 Team:

**Lilac Class Teacher:** Ashleigh Endacott

**Maple Class Teacher:** Peter Rutherford

**PPA Teachers:** Ruth Deer and Nursel Deniz

**Support Staff:** Fatima, Marian, and Wendy

## Maths

### Mathematical Development

Please see below for a week by week overview of the maths areas that we will be covering this half term:

Week 1– Negative numbers. Counting forwards and backwards through zero and ordering numbers including negative numbers.

Week 2– Counting in multiples of 6,7,9,25 and 1000

Week 3 - .Add and subtract numbers with up to 4 digits using the formal written methods of columnar addition and subtraction, where appropriate.

Week 4 - Estimate and use inverse operations to check answers to a calculation.

Week 5- Compare and classify geometric shapes, including quadrilaterals and triangles, based on their properties and sizes.

Week 6—Read, write & convert time between analogue and digital 12- and 24-hour clocks.

Week 7– Consolidate and Assess

## English

For the first part of this half-term, our English lessons will focus around the book 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers.

We chose this text as we believe it provides a vehicle for children to reflect on and make sense of the world we are living in.

After this we will be looking at traditional tales. The children will have the opportunity to re-write a traditional tale with a twist.

We will also have daily reading lessons and a dedicated Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling lesson each week.

## Science

Our Science topic for this half-term is Sound. We will plan and carry out investigations to find out how sound is made, how it travels and how our ears work.

## Humanities and Topic

### History

During the topic, we will use different sources of information to learn about the Romans and their influence on Britain. We will explore the concepts of 'invading' and 'settling', and understand how and why the Roman army were so formidable. We will also look at the factors that led to the fall of the Roman empire.

### Computing

In computing this half-term we will be learning about how to use technology responsibly and how to stay safe online.

### PSHE & RE

In our Circle Time on Monday mornings, we are working on having a Growth Mindset. Our RE focus is currently 'Becoming an Adult'.

## PE

This half term in PE, the children will focus on tennis. They will work on ball handling skills, racquet skills and build up to playing the game of tennis. PE will take place on Thursdays and the children should come to school wearing their PE kit on this day. Their PE kit should consist of: a plain white T-shirt, navy/black shorts and trainers/plimsolls.