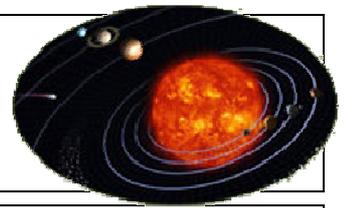


# 2016

## Class 4 Curriculum Newsletter January 2016



Happy New Year! This half term our theme is 'A Year of Wonders' and we have already been discussing why 2016 will be wonderful for us, and we have lots to look forward to this half term. Not only are Parents' Evenings coming up in February but we also have a skipping workshop with Jodi on Friday 22 January and a visit to the Yorkshire Museum on **Friday 29 January**. Below is an outline of our curriculum this half term. If you have any queries or are able to support and contribute to our learning, please contact me. As ever, keep updated with Class 4 via our webpage too.

Miss Maddison

### English & Maths

In English this half term we will be focussing on using a variety of connectives and conjunctions to link ideas between sentences and across paragraphs, and within sentences. We will practise writing sentences like this in some science based texts – biographies of Sir Isaac Newton and Tim Peake and action packed descriptions inspired by clips from sci-fi films such as Star Trek. We will also look at a range of creation stories, comparing their content and features, before having a go at writing our own stories to explain the awe and wonder of the world.



Much of our work in maths this half term will focus on division, fractions and decimals. (This ties in very well with our KIRF on fraction – decimal – percentage equivalences). We will also hone our skills of measuring accurately with a ruler, learn to calculate the area of a shape and develop our spatial awareness skills in geometry. We will continue to consolidate our times tables knowledge and calculation methods as well.

### A Year of Wonders

Mrs Tait will continue to teach science on Thursdays, and this half term we will be learning about the Earth and space. This will include learning how days, seasons and years are created and measured. We will also learn about gravity – which coincides with the anniversary of Sir Isaac Newton's "discovery".



Whilst using the ipads and laptops to present our work, we will also learn a bit about the history and development of the internet – a global revolution! Alongside this we will consider how to stay safe online as well as why the internet can be both wonderful and not wonderful.

Over the next term in RE, we will be considering whether charities such as Christian Aid and Islamic Relief can change the world through their work. We will study the religious beliefs which these two particular organisations are based upon as well and apply these ideas to our own beliefs and charitable works.



Swimming lessons for Year 4 start this half term. Whilst the Year 4s are at Wetherby Pool on Tuesday mornings, the Year 5s in Class 4 will take part in dance lessons with Ms Ilott. In our other PE lesson we will develop our hockey and skipping skills in preparation for some competitions later in 2016. Children need to have a full PE kit in school each week and may be asked to bring in a pair of trainers for outdoor PE, but they should have a pair of pumps. It may be useful for girls to have a pair of socks in their kits if they usually wear tights.

Following on from last half term, we will study the year 1066 in history and consider the significance of the events which took place in Britain in this year. This will draw our work on the history of Britain in the first millennium AD to a close. We will look at events throughout this year – from the death of Edward the Confessor, the Battles at Stamford Bridge, Fulford and Hastings to the coronation of William the Conqueror.

With Mr Rossiter on Wednesdays, we will continue learn a variety of songs which require increasingly complex chord changes. We will also listen to and discuss a range of musical genres and begin to develop our own song writing skills. Please encourage your child to practise the chord changes – if nothing else and even when the ukuleles are out of tune – each fortnight.



Our art topic is printing and we have already made a start with investigating creating a picture using finger prints. We will look at using different objects to create a pattern and to build up a variety of colours. We will also design and create relief prints, print blocks and perhaps even our very own design of wrapping paper.



We will continue to build on our language skills & vocabulary knowledge in French as well. This will focus on facial features and parts of the body.

### Homework

Homework tasks – either Learning Logs or writing homework – will be set on Wednesdays and are due in on Mondays. Over these five days, children are expected to spend about 45 minutes on these tasks.

Children should also make a note of the KIRF work they undertake at home to help learn mental maths facts. This should be recorded on the sheets at the back of the Learning Logs. Weekly KIRF Challenge scores are recorded here and parents/carers should sign these records please. Access to Mathletics is still available. This is a superb resource for children and is very much encouraged but is not formally part of homework expectations.

Reading records will be checked every Thursday. In Class 4, children are expected to read every day, including out loud to an adult. Parents/Carers should sign (and comment if you wish) in reading records as well.

Spelling tests take place on Fridays and spellings are given out for the following Friday as well. Please support children in learning how to spell these words.

### Weekly Timetable

Mon	Homework due in – Learning Log or Writing Homework and KIRF Records
Tue	Year 4 Swimming at Wetherby Pool
Wed	Ukulele KIRF Challenge Homework set
Thu	Mrs Tait in Class 4 all afternoon Reading Records checked
Fri	Spelling Test & new spellings set

