



Class 4 Curriculum Newsletter

January 2017



Happy New Year! We have already started this half term by completing our D&T projects we began before Christmas and finishing reading *The Thieves of Ostia* which we have really enjoyed.. If you have any queries, please contact me – either have a chat in the playground or make an appointment through the school office. If you can help or support our learning in any way please do get in touch! Otherwise, I look forward to seeing you all at Parents' Evening before half term.

Mrs Carr



Lights, Camera, Action II

Back by popular demand, our theme *Lights, Camera, Action II: The Sequel!* will give us the opportunity to use film to inspire our writing in English. We will look at a selection of clips from some Disney films as well as some animated Pixar shorts. This will help us to focus on adding detail to our written work through using adjectives and adverbs as well as figurative language, expanded noun phrases and sandwich sentences (putting extra parts in sentences using commas, brackets and dashes). We will also continue to develop our proof-reading skills, focussing particularly on spotting spelling mistakes (especially homophones such as there, their and they're), checking capital letters for proper nouns and making sure that each sentence makes sense!

Our art and computing work this half term will also help us to make the most of our theme through creating stop animation shorts. We will learn about how animations are created in a variety of ways as well as developing some top tips from the professionals. On Thursday 26 January, we are going to the National Media Museum in Bradford to explore the museum, watch a 3D film in the IMAX cinema and carry out an animation workshop. This should be a great trip to help inspire and develop our film-making skills!

Geography & French, RE & Music

Miss Cody continues to support our French lessons and this half term we are revising names of animals. We will strengthen our knowledge of masculine and feminine (le/la, un/une) as well as build on our skills of describing using adjectives and colours.

In geography, we are going to carry out a study of France to learn a bit more about the geography of one of our nearest European neighbours. We will also look at some extracts of France on film and the different locations and settlements within the country.



Our RE topic explores the question, 'How do people live through good times and hard times?' In particular, this will give us the opportunity to explore ideas about what happens after we die, including the Christian belief of life after death.

Ukulele lessons will continue as usual with Mr Rossiter on Wednesday mornings and we will continue to learn more chord fingering and practise some more pieces to play in separate parts. We will also listen to a range of music from films. Film scores are wide ranging in style and can have a very powerful effect on the watching audience.

Maths & Science



In maths, we will develop our confidence with division and move on to working with fractions. This will include finding equivalent fractions, adding and subtracting fractions with the same or different denominators and solving problems involving fractions. KIRFs will focus on 9x table facts for Year 4 and x and ÷ by 10, 100 and 100 for Year 5. (There are some great activities on Mathletics and conker maths to help learn these facts.)

With Mrs Tait in science on Thursday afternoons, we will develop our knowledge and understanding of states of matter – solids, liquids and gases – and how these can be changed. Some useful vocabulary linked to this is on the reverse of this newsletter. Please read and discuss these words as they will be important in explaining results and conclusions within the different investigations we will undertake.

Weekly Timetable

Mon	
Tue	Year 4 Swimming Lessons at Wetherby Pool
Wed	Ukulele KIRF Challenge Writing homework set and due in PE
Thu	Mrs Tait in Class 4 all morning Reading Records checked
Fri	Spelling Test & new spellings set PE



PE



As you already know, children in Year 4 will attend swimming lessons at Wetherby Pool during the spring term. Children need a swimming costume or trunks, a towel and a pair of goggles on Tuesdays. Whilst the Year 4s are swimming, children in Year 5 will join Ms Ilott for PE.

Our other PE session will provide us the opportunity to start developing and strengthening our skipping skills ready for the skipping festival later in the spring. We will practise the individual, dual and team events.

Homework



Homework activities and expectations will continue as before:

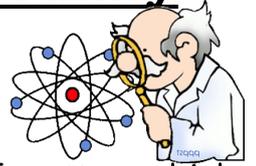
Writing homework tasks will be set on alternate Wednesdays and are due in the following Wednesday. Children should spend about 45 minutes on these tasks.

Any KIRF work should be recorded in the yellow Mental Maths Homework books which are checked on Wednesdays to coincide with the weekly challenge.

Children should be reading daily at home and as often as possible out loud to a grown up. Reading records should be kept updated and initialled by an adult at least once a week.

Spellings are set and tested on Fridays and may include a word study task or overlearning of commonly misspelt words.

States of Matter & Changes of State Vocabulary



PROPERTIES

The characteristics of something, eg. flexible, opaque, granular, soluble, rigid, transparent...

PARTICLE

A very small piece or amount. Everything is made up of matter, which is made up of **molecules** or particles.

SOLID

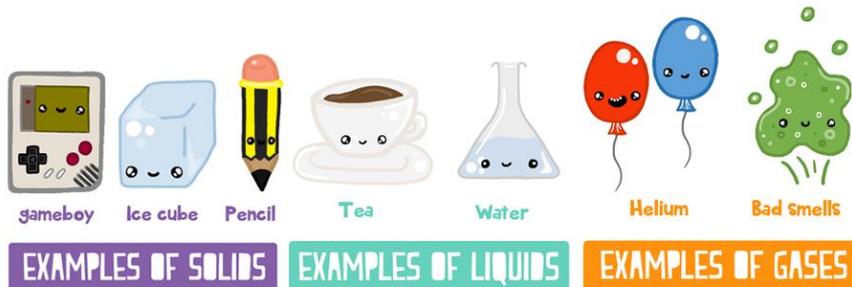
In a solid the particles are close together in ordered rows. Solids stay in one place and can be held. They can be cut or shaped.

LIQUID

Particles are quite close together in a liquid, but are further apart than in a solid. The particles can move around each other easily. Liquids change their shape depending on the container they are in. Even when a liquid changes its shape it always takes up the same amount of space, the volume stays the same.

GAS

Gas particles can move around quickly in all directions. There is a lot of space between the particles. Gases are usually invisible and they can be squashed. A gas will spread out to fill any space or shape.



DISSOLVE SOLUTION

Mixing a solid with a liquid so that it becomes part of the liquid
When sugar dissolves in water, the sugar is a **solute**, the water is a **solvent** and the mix is a solution.

SOLUBILITY SUSPENSION

The property of being soluble
A liquid containing small pieces of solid material that do not dissolve

MELTING FREEZING FILTERING

Change a solid to a liquid by heating.
Change from a liquid to a solid by cooling.
Pass a liquid, gas or suspension (or light or sound) through a device to remove unwanted material, eg. using a filter paper or sieve.

EVAPORATE REVERSIBLE

Change a liquid into a vapour/gas by heating.
Reversible changes, like melting and dissolving, can be changed back again, eg. water can be frozen into ice cubes and ice can be melted into water; salt can be dissolved into water and then extracted through evaporation.

IRREVERSIBLE

Irreversible changes, like burning, can't be undone, eg. baking a cake.

