



Class 4

Wow! Where has this year gone? I am really looking forward to this last half term with this cohort. There are lots of exciting things coming up. Especially as we end the year with our long-awaited trip to Cliffe House!

English

In English this half term, we start off using the BFG as stimulus to write a play script. We will be looking at the conventions of a play script and applying this to our own writing.

Later on, we will be showing our serious side as we write a formal letter of complaint. I am thoroughly looking forward to reading the outrage that comes from these letters!

As we end the year, we will be writing an explanation text using a gameshow from my childhood – The Weakest Link. I enjoy introducing the next generation to Anne Robinson!

Maths

In maths, we will spend much of the half term looking at shape and space. In particular, we will be looking at types of triangles, quadrilaterals and properties of other 2D shapes. We will also look at coordinates on a grid.

There will also be lots of opportunity to solve problems using the maths skills we have learnt this year.

Topic

In geography this term, we are continuing our topic of rivers and the water cycle. We will be creating our 3D model of the water cycle and then we will be seeing first-hand the features of a river when we go to Cliffe House.

Science and Computing

We will continue to look at how to classify living things and creating classification keys in science. Later on we will look at states of matter.

In computing, we will be exploring how to search online effectively for information before finishing the year by looking at some hardware.

PHSE and RE

We will be looking at rights and responsibilities as citizens of this country in PSHE this half term.

Art

We will continue to look at Monet this half term and will be creating some lovely watercolour paintings that the children will be able to take home.

PE

We will continue going swimming on Friday afternoons. In addition, the sports coach will be helping us create our own obstacle courses.

Important Dates this half term:

Wednesday 27th June: Year 4 at Sports Barn.

Wednesday 11th July – Friday 13th July 2018: Cliffe House residential.



Ways to help your child in Year 4:

We are working very hard in school to help the children rapidly recall multiplication AND division facts with whole class practice three times a week (Rockstars and Speed Tables) as well as afternoon interventions on a Tuesday and Wednesday. At home, if you could quiz your children on facts as often as possible, this would be a great help. As well as a section on IXL, there are plenty of other websites that you can use to help your children with multiplication facts. <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables> is an example of one.

As well as helping your children learn their eight spellings every week, giving children the opportunity to use these spellings in writing will help them consolidate their spellings. If children make errors with other words, don't be afraid to correct them; they are used to corrections from me on a daily basis!

When reading with your child at home, invite them to summarise what they have read to you; this way you can check their understanding of what they have read. In addition, encourage your child to read widely. As brilliant as 'Diary of a Wimpy Kid' and Tom Gates books are, there are plenty of other fantastic authors out there, with a wide variety of genres. I highly recommend Michael Morpurgo, his books are well-written and cover different genres.

In Year 4, children should be spending **approximately 90 minutes on homework a week**. I advise 40 minutes on IXL maths, 40 minutes on IXL English and 10 minutes on learning their spellings. The IXL homework is designed to complement and consolidate the work we have looked at in Maths and English that week. If they are spending more than 40 minutes on a skill, it may mean they are struggling with the concept. If this is the case, it will flag up on my IXL page so I can provide them with additional help.

Finally, I will communicate their IXL homework and spellings via their planner, so please ensure it is brought to school every day. In addition, I will highlight directly on IXL which skills I would like them to practise.

Thank you, as always, for your support.

Mr. Kershaw and Ms Littler.