



## Class 4

Welcome to 2019 in Class 4! I still have our Christmas performance stuck in my head, but we have lots of things to look forward to this half term. I hope you've all had a lovely break and are ready for a new year!

### **English**

We will be spending time reading *The Shark-Headed Bear-Thing*, and using it to inspire a character description as well as some unusual poetry forms. Later in the half term, we will be writing a biography about Neil Armstrong.

In GPS, I have dedicated a whole half term to looking at adverbials. What are they? Where are they found? Are there any punctuation rules associated with them? All this and more will be answered this half term!

### **Maths**

We start the term looking at rounding and coordinates. These were two things the children struggled with in their tests at the end of last term. Then we will be recapping the four written methods, using them to solve problems. Finally, we will end the term looking at geometry, in particular the different types of quadrilaterals and triangles.

### **Topic and Computing**

This half term sees the start of our huge Roman topic, that will take us all the way to Easter. This half term we will look at the Roman invasion of Britain and the innovations that they brought to this country. We will also be looking at Boudicca and how she was affected by the Romans.

In computing we will learn how to word process for different purposes before using a text-based coding language on a programme called Logo.

### **Science and DT**

Science and DT will be linked heavily this half term, as we are learning about electricity in science, and creating an electrical circuit in DT. We will start the term learning the theory needed before applying this to create a functioning burglar alarm!

### **PHSE and RE**

In RE, we are looking at inspirational leaders across various religions. In PSHE, we will be discussing friendships, feelings and emotions. There will also be more on bullying.

### **PE**

We will be going swimming on a Friday afternoon throughout this year.

PE is back to a Tuesday afternoon, where the children will be learning different elements of dance.

Your child will need a **fully-labelled** PE kit, including correct footwear, in school for these days in order to participate. As per the school policy, long hair must be tied up and earrings removed or taped up during PE.

### **Important Dates :**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February – Safer Internet Day

11-12<sup>th</sup> February – Parents' Evening

15<sup>th</sup> February – Break up for half term.



## Times Tables in Year 4

As you may know, by the end of Year 4, children are expected to know their times tables up to  $12 \times 12$ .

This means they should be able to answer a times table question within seconds. This is also true for division facts as well. For example, the children will need to know that  $7 \times 6 = 42$  as well as 42 divided by 6 is 7.

A great way for them to practise this is through IXL maths sections H and J. I recommend they practise this twice a week, even if they are doing particularly well at times tables anyway.

Also, your child should have a good idea which times tables they need to work on. I recommend practising them in groups. Start with the twos, fives and tens and ensure they are secure with these. Follow this with the threes, fours and eights. Finally, focus on the sixes, sevens, nines, elevens and twelves.

There are many ways for children to practise their times tables. A few examples include:

- Times table Snap!
- IXL (Sections H and J)
- Speed Tables sheet (Please ask if you would like some sent home with your child).
- The Cool Math Games website.

Thank you, as always, for your support.

**Mr. Kershaw**