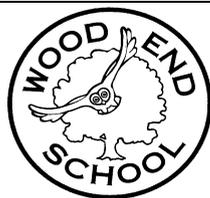


**Year 4
Parent Curriculum Letter
Spring Term 2019**



We trust you had a restful holiday and that the children are looking forward to an exciting programme of lessons in the Spring Term.

The Year 4 team would like to say a huge thank you for all your generous gifts at Christmas.

English

Poetry: The children will have fun reading a variety of 'Odes' and writing their own Ode to a favourite food! They will analyse how poetry is structured and its effect on the reader. Later in the term, they will study, give personal responses to and recite poetry by Pie Corbett.

Fiction – Story with a theme: 'Mr Stink' by David Walliams. The children will use drama to explore the themes of friendship, bullying and loneliness raised in this story. They will use this book as a stimulus for writing an autobiographical story. In SPaG, they will revise the use of the apostrophe, pronouns and conjunctions. The children will also practise using a dictionary effectively.

Report Writing: The children will explore 'The Whales' Song' by Dyan Sheldon to enhance our Sound topic in Science. Children will gather information on an animal which uses echolocation and write a report using their notes.

Myths: The children will study a variety of Greek Myths. They will then draft and write their own Myth, based on one we have studied together in class. They will revise using inverted commas and other punctuation to indicate direct speech i.e. a comma after the reporting clause; end punctuation within inverted commas. Fronted adverbials will also be re-visited.

Mathematics

Spring 1:
Place 4-digit numbers on landmarked lines; round 4-digit numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000; mentally add and subtract to/from 4-digit and 3-digit numbers using place-value; count on and back in multiples of 10, 100 and 1000; count on in multiples of 25 and 50; add and subtract multiples of 10 and 100 to/from 4-digit numbers.

Use expanded written subtraction and compact written subtraction; learn the 7x table and 'tricky' facts; use the vertical algorithm to multiply 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers; solve simple money problems with decimals to two decimal places.

Use mental multiplication and division strategies; find non-unit fractions of 2-digit and 3-digit numbers; find equivalent fractions and use them to simplify fractions (halves, thirds, quarters).

Recognise and compare acute, right and obtuse angles; draw lines of a given length; identify perpendicular and parallel lines; recognise and draw line symmetry in shapes; sort 2D shapes according to their properties; draw shapes with given properties and explain reasoning; draw the other half of symmetrical shapes.

Understand how to divide 2-digit and 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers using place value and mental strategies; divide numbers by 1-digit numbers to give answers between 10 and 25, with remainders; identify factor pairs and use these to solve multiplications and divisions with larger numbers; find change from amounts.

Spring 2:
Recognise, use, compare and order decimal numbers; understand place value in decimal numbers; recognise that decimals are tenths; round decimal numbers to the nearest whole number; divide 2-digit numbers by 10 to get decimal numbers; multiply decimal numbers by 10 to get 2-digit numbers; divide 3-digit multiples of ten by 100 to get decimal numbers; multiply decimal numbers by 100 to get 3-digit multiples of ten; add four digit numbers using written method with answers greater than 10 000.

Add amounts of money using written methods and mentally using place value and number facts; choose to add using the appropriate strategy: mental or written; subtract, choosing appropriate mental strategies: counting up or taking away (using counting back, place value or number facts); solve subtractions using a suitable written method (column subtraction).

Tell the time on a 24 hour clock, using am and pm correctly; convert pm times to 24 hour clock and vice versa; use 24 hour clock in calculating intervals of time; measure and calculate perimeters of rectilinear shapes where each side is labelled in cm and m; find missing lengths in rectilinear composite shapes; find the perimeters of rectilinear shapes with some lengths not marked; convert from one unit of length to another; solve word problems involving lengths including those involving perimeters.

Understand place value in 4-digit numbers; partition 4-digit numbers; solve subtraction of 4-digit numbers using column subtraction (decomposition); choose an appropriate method to solve subtractions, either mental or written, and either column or counting up.

Multiply 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers; explore patterns; use mental strategies and tables facts to divide 2-digit and 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers to give answers between 10 and 35, without remainders; solve word problems.

Science

Sound and Vibrations: The children will develop their understanding of sound, including how sound travels and the features of the ear. Practical investigations will involve changing pitch and volume, and muffling sound. In addition, to link with our study of 'The Whales' Song' in English, pupils will find out about echolocation and sonar.

Computing	<p><u>We are meteorologists:</u> This unit brings together data measurement, analysis and presentations, as the children take on the role of meteorologists and weather presenters. Children will use Excel to present their information in spreadsheets, charts and graphs.</p> <p><u>We are co-authors:</u> This unit is designed for the pupils to collate and organise information about the topic Ancient Greece. They will be using a variety of software to create a 'mini Wikipedia'. Children will also have a better understanding of how the internet can provide us with multiple services such as, information and communication.</p>
Topic	<p><u>The Ancient Greeks:</u> This term, the children will learn about Ancient Greece; the tradition, culture, history and geography. Pupils will use timelines and find out about the Ancient Greek empire, as well as examining the legacy of the Ancient Greeks. They will decode Ancient Greek writing; investigate democracy; study myths and investigate different gods and goddesses. In addition, we will have an Ancient Greek Day, involving a performance and interactive Drama workshops.</p>
PSHE	<p><u>Looking forward:</u> At the beginning of this half term, the children will focus on setting personal goals and targets to help their learning. They will then look at and discuss themes of loneliness, kindness, friendship and bullying using the book 'Mr Stink.'</p> <p><u>Fair Trade:</u> The children will also focus on Fair Trade and how it supports communities that are less fortunate than themselves. They will learn about the production of Fair Trade products and how Fair Trade supports farmers.</p>
Art/DT	<p><u>Greek Sandals:</u> The children will design Ancient Greek-Style sandals using a variety of joining techniques, including sewing. They will make a paper prototype before making their final sandals. Any adults who are DBS checked are more than welcome to come in and support our sewing sessions! Please see your child's class teacher.</p> <p><u>Greek clay pots:</u> Children will design and create a Greek pot, based on traditional Greek pottery, which would have been used in the home. They will use clay to create these and paint them with a typical Greek scene.</p>
Music	<p><u>Composing:</u> The children will listen to Anna Meredith's piece called, 'Connect It,' and use this as a stimulus to compose their own music using body percussion and voices. They will explore pulse and understand how important it is to keep in time with each other. They will use musical canon to structure their compositions. The children will also have the opportunity to compose music using the App, Garageband.</p>
P.E.	<p><u>Indoor Athletics and Gymnastics.</u> <u>Rowan:</u> Mondays and Wednesdays. <u>Maple:</u> Mondays and Wednesdays.</p>
R.E.	<p>In R.E, pupils will discuss the essence of belonging to communities and enhance their understanding of the Sikh faith, including the 5Ks. Children will identify the ways in which new babies are welcomed into the Sikh and Christian communities. Some deeper questions will be explored on the nature of belonging and symbolic representation.</p>
French	<p>The children will learn about: Epiphany, phrase of the week, writing phrases following a model, learning some places in a town and learning the poem and doing the quiz connected to the story 'Un village en France.' Lessons will also include response to pupil feedback, Fairtrade week, work connected with Harpenden, listening to clips, singing songs, Storytelling week, ICT research and a market dialogue. Children will also be looking at Easter.</p>
Homework	<p>Maths – set on Fridays, to be handed in the following Wednesday. Please continue to encourage your child to practise their times tables using Times table Rock stars: https://trockstars.com/</p> <p>This will be explained in our weekly update on our Year Group page on the School website.</p> <p>English or Topic - given out on Fridays, to be handed in the following Wednesday (unless other date given). Reading - five times a week aloud to an adult at home, to be recorded in their Reading Record Book.</p>