

Year 4 Curriculum News Spring 2019

Year 4 Spring term

Our Topic this term is called '**Rotten Romans?**'

English

This term, we will be covering a range of fiction and non-fiction writing styles. Our first unit is a conquering the monster story based on the legend of Beowulf. The unit will focus primarily on the development of descriptive language for both setting and characters. This will be followed by a non-fiction unit which will focus on a newspaper report written in the third person. The unit will link to our learning about volcanoes and report on a volcanic eruption. Our final main unit of writing this term will be a meeting tale set in the Roman era where a Roman soldier has to deliver an important message for Caesar. We will be looking at how we can bring an element of humour to our writing as the soldier has a number of amusing hurdles to overcome.

Mathematics

To start the term, the children will build on their learning of multiplication which we started before the Christmas break. This will include learning a formal written method for short multiplication which will use the times tables facts we have been learning this year. This will be followed by Roman numerals which will link to our history topic. Our next unit will be measure where we study area, followed by fractions and finally decimals.

Science

In the first half term, our science unit will be sound where we will explore how we hear sound and what changes the way things sound. The second half term topic will be animals including humans where we will learn about parts of the digestive system, teeth and their functions as well as food chains.

Art / DT

Our DT project this term will be working with clay to design and create a Viking/Roman style bowl for a specific use. We will also be designing and making a Roman inspired mosaic for our art unit this term.

Computing

Our first computing unit this term will be writing for different audiences where the children will learn how to format a document to fit its purpose. This is followed by a unit on logo where the children will use computer programming language to build a programme to animate a turtle.

History / Geography

We start this term with a short unit on volcanoes which follows on from our work on Europe and leads us into our history topic. Our main focus for topic this term is history where we will be studying the Romans and their impact on life in Britain.

PE

Two classes this term will be attending weekly swimming lessons at the Rushden Splash swimming pool. PE lessons in school will focus on balance and coordination which will be used in a range of sporting activities.

PSHE

We will continue to follow the Jigsaw units of work. Our first unit is 'dreams and goals' where we will be looking at how positive and negative experiences can help us to achieve our goals. This is followed by the 'healthy me' where we look at how group dynamics can influence us and how smoking and alcohol affect our health.

RE

Our first unit looks at stories in different faiths where we will compare the different figures from different religions. We then move onto the ten commandments, focusing on morals and rules.

Homework

Spellings:

- 5-7 spellings to practise each week – use different methods to practise these
- Tested on these 5 spellings each Friday.
- When a spelling rule is learnt, an additional 2 'unseen' words will be tested to ensure the children have learnt the rule.

Maths:

- Practise times tables as much as possible using the TT Rock Stars website.
- This term we are introducing a Collins maths workbook as homework. Each week, a section will be set for the children to complete. This will be gone through in a lesson the following week to mark and check misconceptions.

Reading:

- Read at least three times a week with your child. Sign each read with a comment for them to win a reading token.
- All children are expected to take an Accelerated Reader quiz at least every other week.

Topic:

- Children will have a list of activities to complete throughout each half term. If children complete one a week, they will receive Dojo points.

Important Dates

- 11th January – deadline for second instalment of York residential
- 4th February – York residential parent meeting @ 3.30pm
- 8th February – join in an arithmetic lesson with your child open morning
- 11th-13th March – 4TM & 4HG to York/school based activities
- 13th-15th March – 4CP & 4JC to York/school based activities
- 19th March – join in a reading lesson with your child open morning
- Parent's evenings:
 - Tuesday 2nd April
 - Thursday 4th April

PE Days

- Monday: 4JC and 4HG
- Tuesdays: 4HG and 4TM (swimming), 4CP (PE)
- Thursdays: 4TM, 4JC and 4CP

Library Days

- 4CP – Monday
- 4JC – Tuesday
- 4HG – Tuesday
- 4TM – Monday