

**Spring term 2019 curriculum letter: Year 4**

**Dear Parents.**

We have got an exciting term ahead in Year 4 on the theme of 'Somewhere to Settle'. We will be organising a range of exciting activities across the curriculum all related to this topic. We are also really excited to be going on our residential visit to Cliffe House with our Year 5 friends. Miss Eyles is the lead teacher for the visit, so please contact her if you have any questions!

|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Literacy</b>       | <p><b>Fiction:</b> Narrative verse - poetry that tells a story! We will write a new story using some of the characters from some amazing example texts 'The Bogey men' and 'The Trolls Next Door'. The grammar focus is to use first person, past tense, to write in the role of a character.</p> <p><b>Non-fiction:</b> Explanation texts - We will write about a pupil's life at stage school, based on a radio interview. The grammar and punctuation focuses will be reported and /or direct speech which is punctuated correctly.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Numeracy</b>       | <p>In Year 4 the main focus for the spring term is Problem solving, reasoning and algebra. The children will also work on Number and place value; written addition and subtraction; mental multiplication and division; written multiplication and division; measurement Mental multiplication and division; fractions, ratio and proportion; <i>Geometry:</i> properties of shapes; mental addition and subtraction. Appropriate intervention groups will be established at the same time as all the other classes in the near future.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>RE</b>             | <p>In RE we will be focusing on the Sikhism. We will be asking the question 'What does it mean to be a Sikh in Britain today?' in the second half of the term we will be looking at the Easter Story in a little more depth and asking the question 'Why do Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday?'</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Other subjects</b> | <p><b>Topic:</b> - 'Somewhere to Settle' In this unit, children head back in time to find out how the towns and cities of the UK first developed. Children will learn about the needs and requirements early settlers had when choosing a place to build a home. They will look at place names around the UK to see how the Anglo-Saxons, Romans and Vikings all left their mark. Through use of digital and paper maps, children will investigate land use in different sized settlements and the ways in which settlements are linked together. At the end of the unit, children draw together all their learning about settlements to design their own new settlement (D&amp;T)</p> <p><b>Science:</b> - We will be studying electricity. In the second term we will be learning about Living Things and Their Habitats.</p> <p><b>Computing:</b> - We will be furthering our skills in programming and exploring the use of the laptops.</p> <p><b>Art:</b> - We will be linked to the 'somewhere to settle' topic this term with painting and sketching.</p> <p><b>PE:</b>- Class 4 will be swimming on Thursdays and will continue to have an extra session per week with the class teacher, focusing on 'outdoor adventurous' activities.</p> <p><b>PHSE:</b> In PHSC we will continue to consider what it means to be an 'effective learner'. We will develop team-working skills and think about respecting our belongings and those of others. One of the main aims of the residential visit is children's development of social skills and building effective relationships with their peers. Every activity is based on principles of teamwork, trust and self-awareness. I am pleased to be going earlier in the year than we usually do for these reasons - I am sure we will find many children return more mature, self-confident and with even stronger friendships! We will also be doing lots of work around 'Growth Mindset', which will hopefully help us all to have fantastic attitudes to learnings, accepting that mistakes are a natural part of the learning processes and to not give up easily, but become more resilient instead.</p> |

Maths homework is to continue to practise or learn times tables using TT Rockstars. The national expectation is that all year 4 children should know all their times tables. Maths homework is to complete the Abacus maths games. Please do not hesitate to contact school if you have any questions or concerns; by letter, telephone or in person. If we are unable to deal with the question/concern straight away, we will ensure a mutually convenient time is created.

Thanks.

Mrs Wood & Miss Eyles  
(SLT)