

Year 4's Classroom Newsletter

Spring Term 2019

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Dear Children, Parents and Carers

Welcome back! We hope that you had an enjoyable and restful break. Just think, the days now become longer again - Hooray! We hope that the following information will be of use at the start of the new term.

Curriculum

Our first enquiry this term is **What happens to our food?** We have started by looking at food groups and teeth and moving onto food chains, classifying animals and the digestive system. We will also be cooking a variety of savoury dishes using a range of cooking techniques.

Other enquiries this term are:

1. **How many bulbs is too many?** We will spend time making circuits and investigating what a circuit needs for a bulb to light.
2. **What if our city walls could talk?** This will be a local history-based enquiry focussing on invaders.

During the Spring Term across our school, we deliver our Sex and Relationships Education Programme which is closely linked with our PSHE Programme (personal, social, health and economic education). It is a developmental programme and based around seven topics - keeping safe, feelings, relationships, gender stereotypes, online technology safety, my body and lifecycles. In Year 4, this will include the following lessons delivered through interactive programmes, discussions and group activities:

- Keeping safe: Good touch and bad touch
- Gender Stereotypes: Mothers and Fathers

- My Body: Keeping clean and not spreading germs
- Feelings: Managing our feelings
- Relationships: What makes a good friend?
- Online Technology safety: Taking care online- who can help us?
- Keeping safe: People who can help me

If you would like to know more about the resources and vocabulary that will be taught, please come and speak to one of the Year 4 team.

Assembly

We are planning to do a Year 4 assembly on **Friday 1st March at 3pm**. Parents and carers are invited to come and see what we have been up to in class.

Camp

We are now on countdown to our Year 4 residential to Heatree Activity Centre, which is on **Wednesday 3rd April - Friday 5th April**. Further details will follow shortly and a meeting has been arranged for **Thursday 14th March** at 3pm. This will give you the opportunity to find out more information about the activities the children will take part in, accommodation and food. We will also be able to answer questions that you may have.

Homework

Homework will be given on a **Friday**, to be returned on the following **Wednesday** so that it can be marked before the new set is given out. You may have noticed the change in style we have adopted this year. We have been really pleased with the quality of the work handed in. We very much value open communication between

home and school and would encourage you to use the home-school book if you find this useful.

We do appreciate that children have busy lives and from time to time are unable to complete homework set. If this is ever the case, just let us know by calling in or by writing a note in their homework book. We do understand!

Intervention Groups

From time to time we offer the children additional support to enhance their learning. It is not always possible to do this in class time and sometimes intervention groups may take place during assembly time. Whilst we value the daily act of worship held in school, we also recognise the impact that a 20-minute small group session can have. We assume that most parents and carers are happy with this but if you do feel strongly that your child should not miss the daily act of worship please let us know in writing.

P.E./Games

P.E. Kit will be required on the following days: **Wednesday and Thursday**. Please could you ensure that P.E. kit is in school on the designated days. It may be more useful if kit remains in school all week. This should include shorts, T-shirt, tracksuit bottoms, a jumper with trainers for outdoor sessions.

Please could you make sure that all clothing/possessions are clearly labelled; lost items are much easier to track down this way and it will cut down on the amount of items left in the lost property bins. Thank you.

Jewellery

In line with school policy and for health and safety reasons, we would seriously discourage the wearing of jewellery; stud earrings and wristwatches are acceptable, although these will need to be removed/covered for P.E. sessions. Thank you.

Break-time Snacks

Please could we remind you that we encourage fruit and vegetable snacks on Monday - Thursday with the children having a freer choice on Fridays. In line with school policy, sweets and chocolate are not allowed at break times.

Drinks

We ask that children who wish to bring drinks into the classroom bring them in a clearly named bottle and bring only water. The bottle can be refilled in school as the need arises.

Help

If you would like to help out in school, we would love to hear from you; regular or "ad hoc" sessions would be equally welcomed. No previous experience is necessary and an information pack will be given on your first visit. In line with our Safeguarding procedures, we would have to ask that a police check be carried out. Ask at the Office for details and a form.

Finally if you have any queries about any aspect of Year 4 do not hesitate to come and see us. We are usually available before and after school but advance warning would guarantee a quality slot. Thank you for your continued support.

*Suzanne Wright, Craig Taylor
& the Y4 Team*