

Year 4's Newsletter



Dear Parents,

I hope you have had a restful week and are ready for the final half term of year four!

This half term year 4 continue to have the support of Mrs Howarth in class and Mrs Killan will cover my PPA time on a Thursday afternoon.

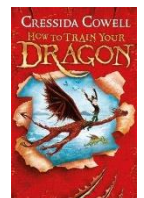
English

To begin our half term, we will be researching plastic pollution as part of Eco Week. We will write our own stories based on plastic pollution and its effects on our environment. The children will be consolidating their understanding of relative clauses, possessive apostrophes and inverted commas and applying these features within their stories.

We will finish reading our class text 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' through exploration in Guided Reading sessions. The children will be consolidating their skills of retrieving and recording information from a text and using the APE (answer, prove, explain) structure to support their answers by using evidence from the text.

Our final class text of the year will be 'How to train your Dragon' by Cressida Cowell. We will enjoy reading and exploring the text through Guided Reading sessions and role play. Children will consolidate their skills of summarising events and information from a sequence of paragraphs.

To complete the year, children will use their knowledge of dragons to create a non-chronological report.



Maths

We will begin the half term by rounding decimal numbers with one decimal place to the nearest whole number. Year four will then focus on decimal numbers in the context of money and problem solving. We will focus on reading and writing the time and converting between analogue and digital time in 12 and 24 hour formats as well as solving word problems in the context of converting time. Children will consolidate their statistics skills through creating graphs and answering questions based upon the information they show. We will consolidate our knowledge of acute, obtuse and right angles and we will translate shapes on a grid.



Science

Our final Science topic is Sound. Using data logging equipment, we will record sounds around school and analyse our findings using graphs. We will explore practically how vibrations create sound and we will investigate the pattern between volume and the strength of vibrations. The children will create string telephones and develop their own investigations. We will complete our unit of work by exploring the best material to absorb sound.



Humanities

Our History topic is the Vikings. We will research who the Vikings were and when and why they raided Britain. We will explore the Viking way of life and explore the Vikings through art and design work by creating our own Viking helmets, runic brooches and longboat collages and designs.



World Cup Week (Humanities Week)

Year four will be exploring the culture of Sweden as part of World Cup Week. The children will find out where Sweden is as well as exploring the geographical features of the land. Children will explore many areas of Swedish culture including religion, traditional food, climate and sports. The children will explore Swedish music both past and present as they listen and appraise music from classical composers such as Wilhem Stanhammar as well as more recent popular music such as ABBA and Zara Larrson.



P.E

Year 4 will continue to enjoy both Athletics and Cricket this half term. We will enjoy short cricket matches as a class on Friday afternoons and practice our Athletics skills on Monday afternoons.

R.E.

Through Humanities Week children will explore non-Christian faiths of Sweden. Children will be exploring whether people worship God in the same way.

PSHCE

Our PSHCE unit this half term is entitled *Growing Up* and enables children to discuss celebrations of key life events such as births and marriages, to recognise and deal with changes and to share hopes and wishes.

Homework

This half term`s homework will be handed out in the children's homework books. Their books should be handed in each **Wednesday** and will be handed out again on a Friday. As well as the suggested activities on the homework sheet, **Mathletics, Times Tables Rock Stars and SPaG.com** can be used as part of the weekly homework. These apps and websites are really useful ways of consolidating and extending the children's knowledge and skills in these areas.

Spellings and Times Tables

Spellings will continue to be tested on a Friday morning and the next week's list will be sent home on a Friday in the children's Spelling books. We will continue to complete 3 Minute Maths challenges each day in class to aid children's quick recall of multiplication and division facts. Children will be told each week which multiplication table will be tested in Minute Maths the following week. It is an expectation that year four children can recall all facts up to 12 x 12 so we will spend time practising these skills each day. I will often set multiplication and division tasks on Mathletics for additional practice of these number facts. Times Tables Rock Stars is another valuable app for practicing these number facts.



Reading Books

Reading books will be changed once a week on a **Tuesday**. **Please can reading books and reading records be brought to school each day.** This is so that if we have an additional adult in class, children will then be able to have an extra session reading with an adult.

Year four will continue to have library time on a Wednesday afternoon. They can visit the school library to choose a book to take home in addition to their school reading book.

Please do not hesitate to come in and see me if you have any questions or concerns. If I am unable to talk to you at the time, we can arrange a mutually convenient time to meet.

Kind regards,

Miss Lees