



Year 3 and 4 Class Newsletter

Summer Term 1 2024 – 2025

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 3 and 4,

We hope you have all had a lovely Easter break and a well-deserved rest ready for a busy half term ahead.

A quick reminder of what your child needs to bring to school:

- book bag (not a rucksack due to limited space in the cloakrooms)
- named water bottle (containing **water** only)
- named lunch box if having packed lunches
- **fruit or vegetables** for morning break snack
- coat (clearly named) when necessary
- a school hoodie for PE lessons
- sunhat

Also, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you about the swimming lessons which commence this half term. These will be on a Wednesday morning and we ask that children come to school with their swimming costumes on underneath their PE uniform with other items (underwear) in a small bag with their towel. If you have any questions then please ask.

Summer Term 1 Curriculum

Over the next five weeks we will be exploring a range of interesting units throughout our curriculum. Here is a brief overview so you are able to talk to your children about their learning.

English Writing	Throughout this term writing lessons will focus on ensuring our writing is written in the correct tense and that we are using paragraphs and both headings and subheadings correctly. The first text we will be looking at is a short video clip called 'Something Fishy'. This clip will also allow us to look at portal stories and making sure we are using an appropriate choice of pronouns and nouns as will we be putting our own story to this clip. The second text we will be using is Dear Greenpeace. This will aid our understanding of persuasive language and using this within a letter. This will also think to our VIPERS work. Through this text we will look at deepening our understanding of using paragraphs to group related ideas and the use of headings and sub-headings.
English Reading	<p>Our reading lessons are designed to develop the children's comprehension skills. Lesson sequences are structured around reading VIPERS (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval and Summarise). We will focus on the following texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Modern Fable: The Story of Two Doves</i>• <i>Dear Greenpeace</i> <p>In both of these texts we will continue to develop our summarising skills. This will include identifying the main ideas from key paragraphs and distinguishing between the important and less important parts of the text. We will then look at how to record a brief summary of the text using the important key information.</p>
Mathematics	During this half term, our maths lessons will start by completing our units on fractions and decimals. After that, we will then complete the unit on right angles. In addition to our core

	<p>maths lessons, we will focus on developing our rapid recall of number and mental maths skills.</p> <p>Year 3</p> <p>Within Fractions, Year 3 pupils will be taught to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • count up and down in tenths; recognise that tenths arise from dividing an object into 10 equal parts and in dividing one-digit numbers or quantities by 10 • recognise, find and write fractions of a discrete set of objects: unit fractions and non-unit fractions with small denominators and then recognise and show, using diagrams, equivalent fractions with small denominators • add and subtract fractions with the same denominator within one whole. • compare and order unit fractions, and fractions with the same denominators <p>Within Measure, Year 3 pupils will be taught to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify right angles, recognise that 2 right angles make a half-turn, 3 make three-quarters of a turn and 4 a complete turn; identify whether angles are greater than or less than a right angle <p>Year 4</p> <p>Within Fractions and Decimals, Year 4 pupils will be taught to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognise and show, using diagrams, families of common equivalent fractions • count up and down in hundredths; recognise that hundredths arise when dividing an object by one hundred and dividing tenths by ten. • add and subtract fractions with the same denominator • recognise and write decimal equivalents of any number of tenths or hundredths. • find the effect of dividing a one- or two-digit number by 10 and 100, identifying the value of the digits in the answer as ones, tenths and hundredths • round decimals with one decimal place to the nearest whole number and compare numbers with the same number of decimal places up to two decimal places <p>Within Measure, Year 4 pupils will be taught to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify acute and obtuse angles and compare and order angles up to 2 right angles by size
Science	<p>This half term we will continue looking at the unit Plants. In this unit we will learn about the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers • explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil, and room to grow) and how they vary from plant to plant • investigate the way in which water is transported within plants • explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal
Geography	<p>Our next unit in geography is Land Use. In this unit we will be describing the key aspects of human geography including land use in the context of sketch maps. This will include some field work to observe, measure, record and present physical features of our local area. We will look at the sketch maps in detail looking at how to use a key and the purpose of symbols before drawing our own to describe land use. We will also be looking into the difference between rural and urban areas and the meaning of agriculture.</p>
DT	<p>In DT this half term we will be designing and making mechanical posters. During this unit we will cover the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw a design which uses annotations to add some detail

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop design criteria to inform the design of innovative products aimed at a particular audience • Explore how mechanical systems work • Make a prototype and well finished poster which aims to have two lever/linkage mechanisms • Use design criteria to help guide the evaluation process
RE	<p>Our RE question for this half term is: Why are sacred texts and holy books so important?</p> <p>We will be thinking about stories that are significant to us, how we seek guidance, investigating different sacred texts to religions, learning about the rules found in the Bible, Torah and Qur'an, and finally thinking about the four Gospels and the parables that Jesus told in the Christian Bible.</p>
PSHE	<p>Our PSHE unit is Relationships. During this term we will focus on developing understanding of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families and friendships: what makes a family; the features of a family • Safe relationships: personal boundaries; safely responding to others; the impact of hurtful behaviour • Respecting ourselves and others: recognising respectful behaviour; the importance of self-respect; courtesy and being polite

PE Lessons

Please note that our class PE days are **Wednesday and Thursday**. This will be swimming on a Wednesday and normal PE session on a Thursday for this half term. If your child has had their ears pierced and is unable to take the earrings out for PE, please provide their own microporous tape for them to cover their earlobes with.

Reading and Homework Expectations

Homework will continue to be set weekly online using Google Classroom each Thursday at 4pm. Please can you ensure your child is either doing this at home or coming to homework club during Tuesday lunch time. This is a drop-in session that children use for many reasons to complete either all or part of their homework and is a great opportunity for your child to complete their homework if you know they struggle to do this at home or if one week you find you don't have the time. The club is compulsory but can be used when needed. Can I also remind you that homework also includes Spelling Shed and Times Table Rock stars and I check these each Thursday to make sure they have also been completed. If, for whatever reason, all three parts of the homework are not completed the children are asked to explain this reason on a Friday morning.

Daily reading still plays a big part of your child's development in Year 3 and 4. Please spend time listening to your child read, discussing and asking them questions about what they have read at least five times per week. Please complete your child's reading record and ensure this is sent into school daily so we can monitor how regularly they are reading at home and can track their progress towards achieving their reading awards. Reading books will be changed on a Monday along with their library book should they wish to change this.

It is really important that children practise their times tables and division facts regularly to achieve fluency and rapid recall. To ensure that your child makes expected progress, they should:

- **Continue daily practice of Times Tables Rockstars.**
- **Complete a minimum of 5 'Soundcheck' games each week on Time Tables Rockstars.** The 'Soundcheck' option is perfect practise for the Year 4 Statutory Times Tables check which will take place in June. Your child's log in information can be found on a label on the inside cover of their reading record.

I would like to thank many of you for your support with the practise of spelling passports. Many of the children are doing really well and a lot of golden house points have been awarded. What we have noticed though is that once a word is highlighted correct children are not then practising these words to ensure they are embedding the spelling in their memory so when tested at a later date they are then not getting these words correct. Please can we ask that you practise random words each week from those that are highlighted to ensure they are retaining the spelling of those words.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries, questions or concerns. I will be happy to help.

Mrs Waldron