

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter: Spring 1

Message from your teachers

Hello everyone! Happy New Year. We hope you have all had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas with your families. It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome back all of our lovely Y4 children. They are excited to be back at school and it has been a joy to hear their Christmas and New Year memories. We are looking forward to an exciting and hardworking term. We wish you all a happy and healthy 2024!

Key Dates for the Diary

Bikeability Y4: January 17th and 18th

NSPCC Number Day: Friday 2nd February

Safer Internet Day: Tuesday 6th February

Half term week commencing: Monday 12th February

Key Information

Your child will attend swimming lessons on a **Friday** this half term. Children must have their full swimming kit, including a towel in school on this day.

Your child is aware of their reading day. They should make sure they have their reading book and reading record in on this day to read with an adult in class. Please encourage your child to read regularly at home.

All homework is set on a **Friday**. The spelling sheet should be kept at home and the spellings practised daily, ready for the test on **Friday**. **Maths homework** is due on a **Wednesday**.

Children are expected to know all of their times tables (**x1 to x12**) by **May 2023** when they will take part in a government test to test their multiplication knowledge. Please work with your child on their times tables and **encourage them to use Times Table Rock Stars and Hit the Button online every evening**.

Our learning in Year Four

Maths: This half term we will continue to learn our times tables. We will recap 2 through to 10 and begin work on 11 and 12. Children need to make sure they know their times and division facts in mixed order. They will apply their knowledge to greater depth questions and word problems. They will learn how to multiply and divide 2-digit numbers by a single digit. We will look at how to multiply 3 numbers in a row and will learn about factor pairs. Next, we will continue to use our multiplication and division knowledge when we move onto our area topic.

English: This half term we will focus on 'Journey Tales'. We will read and share our thoughts about our book, 'Wombat Goes Walkabout' by Michael Morpurgo. The children will learn about some of the native animals of Australia and the U.K. and will research animals in a country of their choice. They will look at characterisation as well as speech and speech punctuation, before writing their own Journey Tale with a moral.

Other Curriculum Areas

In **Geography** we will continue to explore the topic of Rivers. We will explore the features of a drainage basin, the process of erosion as well as the different courses of a river and the variety of landforms found in each one. We will study the River Tees and High Force Waterfall. Finally, we will explore rivers found in our local area and consider the impact of flooding in light of climate change.

In **Science** we be learning about living things and their habitats. We will learn how to group living things based on their characteristics eg. vertebrates and non-vertebrates. We will also learn about how living things adapt to a change in their environment, particularly in light of climate change.

In **R.E.** we will begin our Sacramental Preparation ahead of our Holy Communion which will take place in the summer term. This half term we will be focusing on Reconciliation.

In **French** the children will learn how to name and describe different types of food.

In **R.S.H.E** we will look at how our bodies change as we grow, this will include puberty (a separate information letter will be shared with you).

In **Design and Technology** we will be looking at cooking and nutrition. We will be tasting and comparing homemade and processed pasta sauces. We will plan our own recipes featuring hidden vegetables before designing the packaging and evaluating our product with our peers and families.

In **Music** we will continue to compose our own four and eight bar melodies, exploring the impact of tempo and pace.



