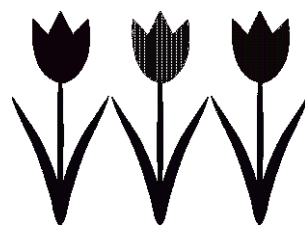


Spring Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't quite believe where the time has gone! Happy New Year! I hope you have all had an enjoyable time over the Christmas break. I have an exciting term planned for your child and hope they will enjoy learning through the varied experiences we are going to have.

Year 4's topics and themes



This term's main topic will be called "Extreme Earth!" Within this topic, we will be researching different natural disasters that have occurred within the UK and around the world. Many areas of this topic will be taught in a cross-curricular way through literacy, numeracy, art, history, geography, DT and ICT. Further maths work will be split into: (Number) multiplication and division, (Number)

fractions, (Number) decimals, and (Measurement) area. Our science topic will be concerned with animals, including humans, where we will be investigating the digestive system and the functions of teeth. We will also begin to look at the topic of changing states of matter.

Throughout the term, we will be concentrating on improving our standards of presentation, spelling and the use of language. The children will also be encouraged to read a wide range of texts both to improve their reading fluency and also for pleasure! Although children in Year 4 are encouraged to read independently, I would urge you to continue listening to your child read whenever possible to ensure they are reading with understanding and fluency. As you know, your child has an accelerated reader book that can be taken home to read with you or independently at their leisure. Please ensure their folders are brought into school every day. We will be carrying out the "Star Reading" assessment within the first couple of weeks back which will inform the level of book your child will be able to access. This information will be found inside your child's planner.

In maths, times tables remain vitally important if the children are going to make good progress. Using the internet games can help reinforce them in a fun and enjoyable way. Your child should be practicing their times tables regularly and should now be confident with their 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 times tables.

Practical Information

The classroom door will be opened at 8.50am where the children can access an early morning activity which we encourage your child to participate in. Registers are taken at 9.00am.

We feel that it is important for children to drink water throughout the day. Therefore, children may bring in bottles of water each day so long as the bottle has a secure lid. These should be taken home each night to be washed and refilled. In Year 4 we keep our water bottles at the side of the room. Please try and name your child's bottle so that it is easily identifiable. Please also try and make sure that all your child's clothes are clearly labelled with their name. Any lost property can then be easily identified.

The welly stores will be reopened so that children can access the field, even in wetter weather. Please send in either a pair of wellies or an old pair of shoes for your child to wear. This footwear will need to be labelled with both forename and surname to ensure they are identifiable.

PE

PE lessons are on Tuesday and Wednesday. However, please ensure that your child has their kit in school all week then it can be taken home over the weekend to be washed. Tracksuits may be sent in when the weather is cold. Children should not wear any jewellery during these lessons and all earrings must be either taken out or covered with micro-pore tape. Please can hair bobbles be brought in to tie back long hair? These can be left in drawers permanently or can be brought in ready for the session.

Homework

- Guided reading homework will be sent home on the day of your child's guided reading session (the children will find out when this is) and is due in to be marked one week from this day.
- Spellings will be sent home on a Monday and will be tested on a Friday.
- MyMaths homework will be posted online on Fridays and is due in by the following Friday.

If your child experiences any problems with their homework, they can always come and speak to me or use the computing suite during a lunchtime at some point in the week.

Please note: I will be holding a quick meeting in my classroom straight after school on Tuesday 5th February to discuss details regarding our Standon Bowers residential trip. Here, I will be able to (hopefully!) answer any questions you may have!

My door is always open after school; please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or queries.

I look forward to another fabulous year working with you and your child!

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Taylor