

# Year 4 Class Newsletter



## Spring Term 2018

### Welcome to Spring Term

We would like to welcome you all back to a new term and a new year!

This newsletter contains information about what you should expect from the Spring term.

If at any time you have any questions or you are unsure of anything please ask. Staff are always happy to speak to you if you have any questions or concerns. Please contact the office and an appointment can be made for a convenient time.

### What does learning look like in Year 4?

Just like in the Autumn term, Maths and English are taught daily as is handwriting and guided reading. Our topic for this half term is The Ancient Egyptians, followed by countries around the world after half term.

### Maths

The 2014 National Curriculum will be taught in year 4 in preparation for the SATs at the end of key stage 2. Following our focus on number skills last term, we are now moving onto properties of shapes and symmetry. We will then move onto decimals, money and fractions as the term progresses. We will also continue to learn our timetables using the counting stick method that we displayed in our class assembly. These are essential mathematic facts that the children need to know and be confident with by the end of year 4.

### English

In English, we will begin this term by reading *The Butterfly Lion* by Michael Morpurgo, focusing particularly on story settings. This is a recommended text for year 4 children. We will then move on to looking at play scripts and turning familiar traditional tales into

### Science

In the spring term we will be focusing on electricity, followed by solids, liquids and gases as the term progresses. Currently, we are looking at electric circuits and their components. We will move onto building electric circuits and testing insulators and conductors.

### Important reminders

- Please make sure all items of uniform are clearly named.
- Please make sure any money sent into school is in a labeled envelope.
- Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school every day.
- Please listen to your child read as much as possible (at least 3 times a week.)
- Please log in to and check *Marvellous Me* for regular updates about your child's learning and achievements. Contact the office if you cannot log on.

Our motto is:

#### **Alta Pete – Aim High**

"The primary aim of the school is to help each pupil reach his or her full potential so that they may develop the attitudes, skills and knowledge to take full advantage of the opportunities available in their future lives."



## Physical Development

PE will take place every Wednesday afternoon and Thursday afternoon. This term the children will be going swimming at the Laura Trott leisure centre. Please ensure that your child has a swimming costume, towel and swimming hat for these sessions. The Thursday lesson is taught by a professional sports coach. Please ensure your child has a named PE kit in school every day as sometimes the lesson times could change due to special events. Children are required to remove or cover earrings for all PE lessons. It is preferred that children have a black pair of trainers and navy blue/black jogging bottoms included in their PE kit as some PE lessons will take place outside.



## Foundation Subjects

In RE we are learning about Judaism and thinking 'how important is it for Jewish people to do what God asks them to?' which will then be followed by the Christian Easter story in the lead up to Easter.

Our topic for this term is the Ancient Egyptians. In History we will investigate who they were and why they are so significant in history, in Music we will learn a song about Egyptian life and in Design and Technology we will be making Egyptian jewellery.

Our topic after half term will focus on countries around the world.

ICT is taught by Mrs Hart. In ICT children explore simulations, explaining how these are structured and some of the programming needed. They decompose tasks and create and de-bug algorithms to solve them, understanding how algorithms support the programming process. They write programs to achieve specific objectives, understanding and using sequence, selection and repetition. They test, debug and refine their programs.

## Homework

Homework is given to develop an effective partnership between home and school. It has many aims but primarily it is to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding in English and Mathematics. It may also extend learning through research and investigation. This term we will continue with our homework learning logs.

The task set is the responsibility of the child with the support of parents. Homework encourages independence and responsibility in the children. The reading records are also important, so please sign them and write comments. Ideally each child should read at home each evening, although we appreciate this may not always be possible. Our daily reading competition will continue.

**Homework will be each half term, asking the children to complete a project about our topic for the half term. Projects allow children to be independent and creative.**

## Lunchtime and after school clubs

Currently, some children have already signed up for homework club, sports clubs, choir, dance club, 'moving and munching' club and after school club.

There are more clubs in the pipeline which you will be informed of.  
a play.  
After half term we will focus on

We hope this year will be an exciting and progressive year for your children, and I hope this information has been helpful.

Any queries that may arise or anything urgent, please contact me via the school office.

**The year 4 team - Miss. Rowden, Miss Whiskin and Mrs. Davey**

