



Dear Year 4 Parents/ Carers,

Hello and welcome to Year 4.

It is very exciting to be teaching your children again and therefore be able to start work immediately!

Our topic for this term is **The UK**. Wherever possible, our topic will be covered through cross curricular teaching and learning so that we can make meaningful links across the spectrum of subjects.

In English, we will be enjoying a range of books. Our text focus will be *The Tin Forest* and *What did the tree see?* These books will support both creative and non-fiction writing. The texts used will provide rich opportunities for the children to develop their writing through a range of genres, such as diaries, letters, speeches, narratives and poetry. Furthermore, they will consider audience and purpose when writing and how this affects their use of language. Grammar will be taught in context when writing to embed the objectives for KS2. Spelling and handwriting will be taught regularly in addition to English lessons, although the children will be expected to transfer these skills when writing.

In Maths, there will be a strong focus on learning the multiplication tables for instant recall. We will practise daily, using a range of strategies. We encourage the children to spend at least 10 minutes each day practising these facts at home too. We will also cover place value, addition and subtraction, fractions and decimals, multiplication and division and shape and geometry. There will also be a strong focus on problem solving and reasoning.

Our **Science** topics are Electricity and Sound. We will be learning about how to stay safe around electricity and how to make simple circuits. The children will investigate which materials are insulators and conductors and make their own switches. After half term we will be looking at sound and how it is made and heard by humans. We will investigate patterns between sound vibrations and volume.

In **Geography** we will focus on map reading as we explore the UK. We will work hard to name and locate as many counties and cities within our country using Atlases and the internet. We will identify its human and physical characteristics as well as its key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers).

In **Art and DT**, we will cover a range of projects. We will develop skills in working with different mixed media to create collages and photo montage. We will study the artist Antony Browne and create a piece of artwork inspired by him. DT will involve designing and making a torch for a particular purpose. (Linked to Science topic).

In **PSHE**, we will explore issues around medication/drugs/alcohol and nutrition. Year 4 will look at how to support their mental health and also at the topic of hygiene. We will take a closer look at our Hawley Habits to support the children as they continue to learn the importance of valuing each other and respecting people's differences.

In **R.E.**, we will learn about what it means to belong and religious artefacts linked to Islam. We will also study the 5 pillars of Islam.

Y4 has a **singing assembly** and a **music** lesson with Olga on a Wednesday morning. This term they will be writing raps to perform in their Harvest assembly.

PE will usually be on a Tuesday and a Thursday. Thursday's session will be with Coach Elijah. We will continue to complete a daily mile, so the children need to wear shoes (trainers) that make it easy for them to run in. It is also essential that the children bring a water bottle into school every day.

Year 4 will have a weekly **French** lesson with our French teacher Sabine. This term the class will be focusing on 'About Town'.

Your child will receive homework **every Friday**. Homework is due back on the **following Friday**. This is set on google classroom and you should have received your new log in details. The children will have **one maths, one English** and a **spelling task** each week. Topic homework will be set half termly. In addition to this the children must practise their timetables using Times Tables Rockstars **every day** for approximately 10 minutes. Please support this and any other preferred methods you have to remember their times table facts up to 12 x 12 (Login details will be sent home AGAIN.)

The children should be increasingly independent in making sure their homework is completed and handed in on the correct day.

As part of our spelling curriculum, the children will also focus on developing spelling lists built around letter patterns, also at times topic related words as well as the compulsory age appropriate lists. Accuracy and speed are important for fluency in writing and to achieve this they will benefit from practice at every opportunity.

Guided Reading will continue as a whole class activity. Please support and encourage your child to develop the habit of reading for pleasure. Sharing stories together, showing an interest in the books your child is reading, listening to audio books, researching a shared interest together are all good ways to do this. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Punctuality

Please remember that children should be in the classroom at **8.55am each morning**. If they are not in the room by this time they will be recorded as late.

Visits and workshops this term:

19th September CLC

18th October National Portrait Gallery

With thanks for your support,

Isolde, Olga and Marion

Y4 Class Team.