

Year 4 Newsletter: Autumn 1

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back to a brand new academic year! Miss Atherton, Mr Marchant and Mr Slater are the new Year 4 team and we can't wait to get to know you all! We have lots of exciting learning opportunities in store this year and we cannot wait to see you grow and develop.

Maths

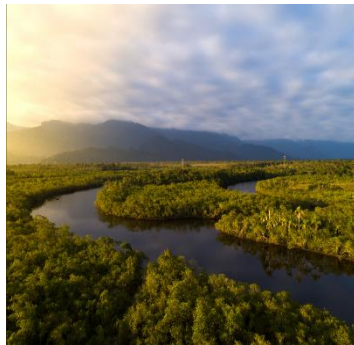
In Year 4, we begin our Maths curriculum with place value. We will be continuing to practise our times tables. We will be using different manipulatives to represent and estimate numbers, order and compare numbers beyond 1,000 and recognise the place value of each digit in a four-digit number. As always, children will have opportunity to reason and problem solve in every lesson.

English

In English, we are basing our writing around a lovely text called 'The Great Kapok Tree'. This text links closely with our Geography topic of South America. In Guided Reading, children will learn the poem 'For Forest' by Grace Nichols. Children will have the opportunity to write a setting description, a non-chronological report and a persuasive letter, finishing the term by creating their own poems.

Computing/DT

This half term's DT links closely to our Science topic. We will be using our design and engineering skills to construct a bug hotel. After building it, we will analyse and evaluate our construction. In Computing, the children will be using Logo. They will create their own program by planning, modifying and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. Pupils will also be using Turtle Academy to explore repetition and codes within programming.



Science

In Science, our topic is 'Living Things and Their Habitats'. We will investigate how to classify a variety of living things in different ways and discover animal habitats. We will also learn how animals adapt to different environments and the characteristics of a plethora of organisms.

History/Geography

Our Geography topic this half term is South America. We will be learning about some of the countries of this spectacular continent, and some of the incredible features and landmarks that are there. We will make some comparisons between South America and the UK. This topic will also inform some of our writing and art.

RE/PSHE

In RE we will research how important religious events are remembered in ceremonies. In PSHE, we will be learning about health and wellbeing. The focus of our topic will be healthy eating and how pupils can maintain a healthy lifestyle.

PE/Music

In Music, the children will become musical critics by comparing the ABBA song 'Mamma Mia' to the bands' other songs. In PE, the children will be focusing on personal skills through a range of physical activities which aim to develop flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance.

Our Place in 'Our' World.

We will be learning about our rights as pupils and the difference between our rights and responsibilities as part of learning about our fundamental British Values.

Aspiring Entrepreneurs

Children will be encouraged to face new Year 4 challenges with a growth mindset and develop as reflective learners. Children will reflect on their work in lessons and consider ways they could improve.

Healthy and Happy Living

Children will regularly take part in a "restorative circle" exercise where they will be given the opportunity to discuss past, present and future events and articulate how they are feeling.

Inquisitive Investigators

As 'Inquisitive Investigators', we will be investigating our playground, looking for different creatures and habitats before identifying the different characteristics of a variety of organisms.

Important information:

- Our PE lessons will take place every Thursday afternoon. Please ensure that children come to school on Thursdays **already dressed** in their PE kit, which they will wear for the full day.
- Swimming will take place on **Friday mornings**. Please ensure your child comes 'swimming ready'. A letter will be sent out shortly reminding parents of what this entails.
- Spellings will be sent home on a Friday. Children should keep their spellings until Friday, as they should learn them throughout the week. A Maths homework will also be sent home on Fridays and should be returned the following Friday.
- Children will have their spelling tests on a Friday morning.
- Children will receive a carton of milk at break times if this has been paid for. Children may bring a named water bottle, which can be stored in the classroom.
- If you have any concerns, then please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or Miss Atherton who is the Department Lead.

Thank you for your continued support ☺