

Autumn Newsletter Year 4

St. Mary's & St. Peter's C of E Primary School

September 2017

Welcome to Year 4! We are looking forward to an enjoyable and successful year. Below is an outline of this term's curriculum.

English During the first half of term, we will be focusing on fictional stories set in imaginary worlds. The children will explore the chronology and narrative order in texts and investigate characters and settings. Later on in the term, the children will look at a number of poems which focus on the same theme to explore how imagery is created through poetry. In the last few weeks of term we will look at the conventions of scripting plays and write one, using known stories as a basis. Spelling activities will be part of the daily English sessions and children will have a spelling investigation as part of their Home Learning. Children will be asked to keep a reading record of home/school books and we encourage the children to explore a wider range of reading. All children may choose two books from the Atrium, one of which can be taken home. Children will have the opportunity to change books during our class Atrium time or during lunchtimes.



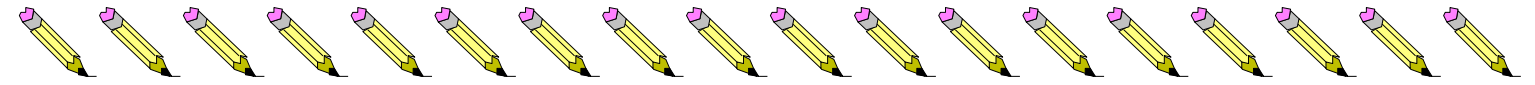
Maths In line with the new curriculum for Maths, the term will begin by focusing on mental addition and subtraction followed by number and place value. We will then concentrate on mental multiplication and division. Later in the term we will look at written methods of addition, subtraction and multiplication. Other topics will include measures (time, length, weight and capacity), fractions, ratio and proportion, decimals, percentages and their equivalence to fractions.



Science Our first topic will be *Animals Including Humans* where we will be looking at the basic parts of the digestive system, the different types and functions of teeth and we will explore a variety of food chains. In our *Sound lessons* we will be identifying that sounds are vibrations, exploring pitch and volume through a number of practical investigations.



Topic The topic this term is Ancient Greece. Areas covered will include myths and legends, Greek Gods and their symbols, different ways of life, leisure and the Spartans.




COMPUTING Work in computing this term will focus on basic word processing skills including; typing, changing font style and inserting pictures. Please encourage your children to practise keyboard skills at home. The children will also learn how to produce digital music and prototyping an interactive toy.




R.E./P.S.H.E. In R.E. we will be looking at the Bible and how Christians use it today, and journeys in relation to the Christmas Story. We will also be learning about what it means to be a Jew where we explore their beliefs and practices. Later we will be exploring our emotions and how to build good relationships.

P.E. Indoor P.E. lessons will consist of street dance, gymnastics and team games. Outdoor P.E. will be tag rugby and football skills. P.E. kit will be needed in school all week. Please ensure your child has suitable clothing, including trainers, for all outdoor conditions.



Art/D.T. We will explore different viewpoints by representing dreams through art. We will be working with a variety of media and be focusing on a number of surrealist artists. In D.T we will be linking with our science topic and making musical instruments.

Music This term we will be learning about different musical genres and the history of music. There will be a focus on the great composers.



French We will start the term by consolidating previous work including basic conversation skills. We will then be learning modes of transport, the weather and days of the week. Later we will learn numbers, toys and games and how to express an opinion.

Home Learning Tasks and General Information

There will normally be two home learning tasks per week – one for Maths and one for English (usually in the form of a spelling investigation). Maths tasks will alternate between written work and online abacus games. All home learning tasks will be set on a Thursday, and should be returned by the following Tuesday. The children will be expected to practise their times tables at home each week as they will be tested each week during mental Maths lessons.

Reading a variety of texts is important and we would appreciate it if you would encourage daily home reading as well as discussion of what they have read. Through asking children questions about the text, you will help the children develop their comprehension skills.

We would also be grateful if you could provide your child with a pencil case and suitable equipment for the year ahead (pencil, rubber, sharpener and glue stick). As always at this time of year we get through lots of tissues. We would be really grateful if you could donate a box of tissues for class use. Many thanks in advance.

Mrs Novak, Mr Taylor & Mr Pierson.

Diary Dates:

Y3 / Y4 Christmas Singup Wednesday 29th November / Thursday 30th December

4T Class Assembly Friday 19th January

4P Class Assembly Friday 27th April

4N Class Assembly Friday 15th June

