Year 4
Half Termly Update
Autumn Term 1

Dear Parents and Carers,
It has been fantastic to welcome your children back to school this week. The Year 4 team are really looking forward to working with the young learners and joining them on their educational journey. We are looking forward to working with you all. A reminder that PE days are on Wednesday and Friday. Please ensure your child comes into school in their full PE kit. Boots and Crocs are not safe for PE.

English - writing
As we start our year, the children will write their own version of an opening to the fantastic book, the *Iron Man* by Ted Hughes. They will use techniques, such as onomatopoeia and similes. The children will also learn techniques to create suspense. We will continue to work on creating engaging character descriptions, using interesting adjectives and powerful verbs. We will also be focussing on spelling, punctuation and handwriting.

English - reading
The children will read *the Iron Man* by Ted Hughes and learn how the author chooses language to create a particular mood or effect. The children will listen to and read the book and respond to questions as well as take part in class discussions. Through this, the children will form their own opinions. Fluency, comprehension and vocabulary will also be developed. Please also ask your children questions about the books they are reading at home.

Maths
Over the next four weeks, the children will learn about number and place value. They will learn to represent, order and round numbers to 10,000. They will learn to count in multiples of 6, 7, 9 and 1000. We will then move on to addition and subtraction. The children will learn to place digits in columns to add and subtract and continue to develop their understanding of exchanging. The children will also solve addition and subtraction two-step problems in context, deciding which operations and methods to use and why.

Science
This term, the children will be learning about states of matter. The children will start by learning about solids, liquids and gases. They will explore how water changes state through practical demonstrations. They will learn about particles and how they behave differently according to the state of matter. The children will learn to understand and explain processes such as melting, freezing, evaporation and condensation.

Geography: Africa

The children will learn about the Northern and Southern hemispheres and the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn. They will study maps of Africa in atlases, identifying landscapes such as deserts, grasslands and rainforests. They will learn to use the eight points on a compass and coordinates to locate areas on a map. Finally, they will compare the human and physical geography of London and Lagos in Nigeria.

PSHE

This half term we will be learning about The Zones of Regulation. This programme aims to teach children strategies to help them to identify their emotions and cope with these feelings so they can get back to feeling calm and ready to learn. The children will develop a growing awareness of what makes them happy, and understand that they can make choices that can improve their wellbeing.

Homework

Homework is given out weekly and children must complete their spellings, Doodle Maths and one piece of homework each week from the humanities grid. Please see the Homework grids in the homework books. We also encourage children to use Doodle Spellings at home.

PE

Year 4 will start the year by taking part in invasion games. They will practice key skills such as dribbling, passing, shooting and defending. Year 4 will work on their language skills to communicate effectively with their teammates and jointly solve problems using reasoning. There will also be a focus on safety, when moving apparatus, making sure that they each carry objects in a safe way.

Music

This term, year 4 will develop their ukulele skills, learn songs and explore harmony through canons. They will be working on using musical language.