



Year 4

Half Termly Update

Spring Term 2

Dear Parents,

Well done for you and your children's hard work over this last term. We are very impressed with the progress the children have made.

This second half term will bring more interesting historical facts to life and a focus on Year 4 knowing all their times tables. Keep an eye out for Year 4's fantastic work on the Duncombe website.

English -Writing

During the second half of the Spring term, the children will be writing pieces based Greek Myths *retold by Marcia Williams*. They will retell some myths that they like using exciting and interesting vocabulary.

The children will also write some poetry based on a FutureZone activity: Writing Through Art. They will perform their poetry to the class and using volume, tone of voice, actions and props. Keep an eye or ear out for the great poetry Year 4 create this term.

English -Reading

In reading we will be reading a Poetry unit: *Silver by Walter de la Mare*, *The Spider and the Fly by Mary Howitt*, *Colonel Fazackerley Butterworth Toast by Charles Causley* and *The African Lion by AE Housman*. The children will perform and create poetry to the class.

The children will learn to identify features of poetry and how they help us understand how to perform the poetry.

The second text the children will look at is *Forgotten Fairy Tales of Brave and Brilliant Girls*. They will continue to develop their retrieval, summarising, prediction and inference skills during the term.

Maths

Year 4 have been working hard to improve their times tables and this will continue. All Year 4 children should know their times tables from 1 - 12 for their times tables assessment at the end of the year. They will be revising addition and subtraction calculations and taking a deeper look into the properties of number.

The children will also be exploring fractions, finding equivalent fractions, finding fractions of shapes and amounts and fractions of numbers. They will be exploring fractions in different ways using concrete examples, pictures and written methods. This will be linked to learning about decimals and how they relate to one another.

Science

In Science this half term we will be learning to recognise and explain different types of teeth in humans and their function. Our teeth will be compared to the teeth of carnivores and herbivores with reasons why there is a difference.

Children will produce a detailed scientific drawing of the digestive system in humans including the main body parts such as mouth, tongue and oesophagus. They will make working models of the digestive system using different materials from around the home. In addition to this, they will describe and explain a variety of food chains, naming producers, predators and prey. Lots of exciting and interesting topics to discover and explore!

Geography

Children will use information books and the Internet to research global environmental issues that interest them, such as energy wastage or recycling. They will work in groups to prepare presentations on their chosen topic, outlining the environmental problem, the impact it is having on people and the environment, and ways people can take action to improve the situation. Following this work, children will create stencils with a political message about climate change, taking inspiration from the work of Banksy and Jean-Michel Baptist .

PSHCE

In PSHCE, Year 4 will focus on how we treat each other and how our words affect people around us. They will learn about Britain as a democratic society, about how laws are made and learn about the local council.

P.E.

As part of their PE lessons, Year 4 will: Keep up a continuous game, using a range of throwing and catching skills and techniques; Use a small range of basic racket skills.

Choose and use a range of simple tactics for sending the ball in different ways to make it difficult for their opponent; Choose and use a range of simple tactics for defending their own court;

Adapt and refine rules; Make up their own net games; Understand the point of the game; Keep rules effectively and fairly; Recognise how net games make the body work; Talk about what they do well and recognise things they could do better; Revise, practice and refine skills by self and with others. Hitting into space, varying direction. Plan own games.

Music

Year 3, 4 and 5 are getting ready for their Spring concert.

They will be learning to recognise and explore the ways sounds can be combined and used expressively and comment on this effect.

Homework

Homework is given out weekly and children must complete their spellings, Doodle Maths and one piece of Topic homework each week.