



Year 4

Half Termly Update

Summer Term 1

Dear Parents,

It is the last term of Year 4. Well done for all your hard work.

This term, the children will be taking part in an RE day and practising their timetables for the Year 4 timetables test. Please remind your children to practise their timetables. You can use Doodle tables, Hit the button or play timetable games like around the world or Spiders Have Hairy Legs. The children can teach you the games they learn at school.

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. This term, the children will be revising decimals, learn to compare and estimate units of measurements and learn to tell the time using an analogue clock and a digital clock.

They will be solving problems and answering reasoning questions to develop and improve their mathematical knowledge.

Science

In Science this half term we will be learning about electricity.

The children will learn to identify common appliances that run on electricity using a sorting activity. They will construct a simple series electrical circuit which includes cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers. Children will predict if a lamp will light or not in a simple series circuit based on whether or not the lamp is part of a complete loop with a battery. Children will learn that a switch opens and closes a circuit by associating this with whether a bulb will work. They will explore conductors and insulators and know that metals are good conductors.

They will carry out a practical experiment to test if various materials conduct electricity.

History

Children will begin by making a model of an Ancient Greek temple. They will then learn when the Ancient Greek period was and place it on a timeline. They will use a range of sources to find out about daily life in Ancient Greece. They compare life in Athens and Sparta at the time and will discuss differences in areas such as politics. Children will read and use drama to retell Greek Myths and will discuss what we can learn from these about religious beliefs of the Ancient Greeks. They will also learn about legacy of the Ancient Greek in Britain in architecture, sport (the Olympics), politics (democracy) and other aspects of modern life.

PSHCE

Pupils will learn that there are drugs (other than medicines) that are common in everyday life, and why people, choose to use them, about the effects and risks of drinking alcohol and about different patterns of behaviour that are related to drug use.

P.E.

As part of their PE lessons, Year 4 will be: hitting into space, varying force and direction, planning when to run, sending ball further, fielding positions and techniques, communication.

Children will learn to play games with some fluency and accuracy, using a range of throwing and catching techniques; find ways of attacking successfully when using other skills; use a variety of simple tactics for attacking well, keeping possession of the ball as a team, and getting into positions to score; know the rules of the games; understand that they need to defend as well as attack; understand how strength, stamina and speed can be improved by playing invasion games; lead a partner through short warm-up routines; watch and describe others' performances, as well as their own, and suggest practices that will help them and others to play better.

Music

Children will learn to: To recognise and explore the ways sounds can be combined and used expressively and comment on this effect. To comment on the effectiveness of own work, identifying and making improvements based on its intended outcome.

Homework

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