

*Year 4
Spring 2018
Newsletter*



Ms Cole & Miss Watson

English:

We will continue to improve our English skills through daily handwriting, grammar, punctuation and spelling sessions. Our English texts will continue to be taught through Talk4Writing and will be strongly linked with our humanities topic, The Romans. Throughout the term we will be reading a range of Roman myths, focusing on the features and structure, leading to retelling and writing our own Roman myth. As the term develops, the children will be writing their own non-chronological report on the Romans as well as writing in role as a gladiator.

Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation

Throughout the year, we shall spend time looking at the different spelling rules and conventions and integrate these into our English work. In addition to this, the children will be issued, on a weekly basis, with a set of words to learn at home and their common spelling pattern. These words will be tested on the following Friday. The words included in our spelling tests come from the national curriculum statutory list of words for Years 3 & the 4 which are based on spelling patterns. These can be found in children's homework book. In addition to our English work, where we focus on the text structure of writing, we will also spend time developing our punctuation and grammar skills. This will be through a combination of separate grammar and punctuation lessons and activities integrated into our main English sessions. Grammar, spelling and punctuation end-of-year expectations are available on your child's Ladders at Home account.

Reading:

Reading is taught at school daily and pupils will get regular opportunities to read together in small groups and individually, as well as listening to the teacher read aloud. Our reading focus this term will be on inferring characters' feelings and thoughts based on what they say and do and justify with evidence as well as discussing the impact of language choices on the reader. Children are encouraged to borrow books from our class reading area and to read at home every day. Books borrowed from school can be changed when the children have finished the book. Children need to keep a record of books they are reading in their home school reading record.

Maths

Children will continue to use Maths No Problem in order to consolidate their written methods of multiplication and solve division problems with up to three digits. They will also be interpreting and analysing graphs, learning to tell the time using 12 and 24 hour clocks as well as looking at fractions. Children will continue to develop their problem-solving skills, writing simple explanations to describe how they reached a solution and completing practical tasks involving real-life problems. Children in Y4 are provided with work which aims to increase confidence while developing their mathematical skills at an appropriate level. Pupils are encouraged to practise their times tables and continue to complete their Times Table Passports. Maths end-of-year expectations are available on your child's Ladder at Home account.

Humanities

The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain

Throughout this topic pupils will gain an understanding of what the terms 'empire', 'settlement', 'migration', 'invasion' and 'conquest' mean. This will be taught through learning about where and when the Romans conquered their invasion of Britain and the impact of Roman life on Britain today. To accompany and enhance our learning both classes will be going on a trip to Lullingstone Villa in Kent, as well as visiting the Museum of London.

Science

Animals including Humans

During this topic, pupils will describe the simple functions and basic parts of the digestive system in humans as well as identify the different types of human teeth and their purpose. It will conclude with children constructing and interpreting a variety of food chains.

Living things and their habitats

In this topic, the children will be taught to recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. They will explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment. We will also be looking at how environments can change and how this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.

Art and DT

Our Art and DT project will link in with our humanities topic: The Romans. Children will be exploring and developing ideas as well as evaluating and developing their projects through creating a mosaic inspired by Roman architecture

Religious Education

Weddings

We will be looking at special times that we have shared with others, discussing what a wedding is and exploring what happens in different religious weddings.

Judaism

We will be exploring how Jews show that God is present in the Synagogue. Alongside this, we will also be looking at how the Torah helps Jewish people to understand what being Jewish means.

French:

The children will be looking at the weather and 'how you can travel to different places. They will be taught to read and understand different weather phrases and they will have the opportunity to put together and present their own weather forecast. The children will also learn how to write short sentences about ways to travel to different countries and how to say them.

Music:

The children will be looking at Bhangra music and making instruments from recycled materials. They will compose their own song using Bhangra rhythms and explore how music can be created from a variety of different recyclables.

Computing

This term, children will learn how to create 3D products using computer aided design, creating a product for a purpose that can be printed out on the school 3D printer. Children will also learn to design, write and debug programs. Pupils will solve problems by decomposing them into smaller parts. They will use sequence, selection and repetition in programs with variables and various forms of input and output. Pupils will use logical reasoning to explain how some simple algorithms work and to detect and correct errors in algorithms and programs.

Homework

In line with the school's homework policy, children can expect to receive spellings each week. Please make sure that you read with your child as often as possible and complete their home school reading record. We have asked the children to ensure that they are reading for a minimum of 30 minutes each day. This can take the form of: book, newspapers, magazine or information from the internet. However, we would like the children to read aloud with an adult at home at least once a week.

PE

This year Y4 will benefit from specialist coaching in PE. This term both classes will have a specialist Dance teacher to teach pupils how to develop a broader range of skills and link them to make actions and sequence movements. PE will take place every Tuesday.

Swimming

From Monday 8th January, all children in year 4 will again be taking part in weekly swimming lessons as part of the P.E National Curriculum. The swimming lessons are timetabled for every Monday morning and will take place at the Waterfront Leisure Centre in Greenwich. The children will be taken there by coach. They will need to bring: a swimming costume/swimming shorts, a swimming hat, a towel and goggles.

PE kits

Please ensure that your child has **suitable** clothing. The school policy is navy or black shorts and a plain white or blue T-shirt with trainers or plimsolls. Tracksuit bottoms may be worn in cold weather. Jewellery should not be worn to school, with the exception of small stud earrings, which should be removed by the child for all PE lessons. Children should bring their PE kit in a **drawstring** bag on the first day of term.

Uniform

Pupils should wear a blue, yellow or white top (no motifs please!) and appropriate skirts, shorts or trousers. Please also remember that the only jewellery allowed is small stud earrings. Pupils with long hair need to come with their hair tied back.

Water

It is Sherington School policy to drink plenty of water throughout the day to aid concentration and learning. Your child should bring a plastic bottle to school as soon as possible which needs to be labelled and kept in the classroom.

Birthdays

In line with the school's healthy eating policy, please do not send in party bags, sweets, etc. when it is your child's birthday. You can, however, send in a cake for classmates, ready cut, with napkins or bags.