

Year 4
Summer 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 Anglo Saxons and Vikings. The children will have the opportunity to study Beowulf leading to retelling and writing our own version of Beowulf. As the term develops, the children will be writing their own newspaper articles, instructions and a suspense story based on traditional Viking sagas.

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 understanding of addition and subtraction using column method and mental arithmetic strategies. Throughout the term, we will also be looking at Money, Mass, Volume and Length, Area of Figures, Geometry, Position and Movement and Roman Numerals. 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

Anglo Saxons and Vikings

Pupils will be learning about why the Romans left Britain, why the Anglo-Saxons invaded Britain, what they were like, how they lived and Anglo-Saxon beliefs. They will also be learning about why the Vikings invaded Britain and local links to events that are known to have taken place at the time of the Vikings.

Science

Electricity

In this topic, children will learn how to identify appliances that run on electricity through practical investigation. Children will also construct simple electrical circuits, identifying and naming their basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers.

There will be a number of opportunities for children to explore the different properties of circuits and their effects, as well as recognising common conductors and insulators. These investigations will provide children with number of scientific skills including, planning, predicting and evaluating experiments

Art and DT

In Art we will be creating Illuminated Letters using different techniques including; collage of different materials; different textures of paint and layering/relief work. In DT, children will be designing and making working torches; building on their knowledge of electricity.

Religious Education:

Buddhism - We will be learning the importance of a temple or a Buddhist centre and why Buddhists have images of the Buddha.

Christianity -We will be learning the different places of worship for Christians, the similarities in what Christians believe and how coming together helps Christians to grow in their faith?

French:

This term, the children will be saying and understanding the numbers up to 31; recognising number patterns; understanding a simple story told in French; talking about what they like and dislike and create an advert for a toy using their oral and written skills.

Music:

In the first half of this term, the children will be looking at Viking sagas and in the second half-term, the children will have recorder lessons. They will be building on their skills of: reading musical notation, singing, performing, composing and playing a range of musical instruments. They will also be preparing for the end of year performances.

Computing

This term, children will learn more about how to use the internet responsibly and how they can identify a range of ways to report concerns. They will discuss why it is important to stay safe online and create their own e-safety animations to demonstrate what good internet use looks like. They will use ICT to investigate both computer and stop-motion animation. Children will continue to work on programming to develop their use of sequence, selection and repetition in programs with variables.

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

The children will continue to benefit from specialist coaching in P.E. This term both classes will still 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. P.E. will take place every Tuesday.

Swimming

From Monday 16th April, 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 P.E. lessons. Children should bring their P.E. 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.