

Year 4
Spring 2019
Newsletter



Mr Paterson & Mr Lewis

English:

We will continue to improve our English skills through daily handwriting, grammar, punctuation and spelling sessions. Our English texts will be strongly linked with our humanities topic, The Roman Empire. 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 explanations on aspects of Roman Civilisation. The texts of focus will be Romulus and Remus in our myth unit, and How to Build a Roman Road as part of our explanation text unit.

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 week. 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 sign in and out when taking books to monitor progress.

Maths

This term children will continue to use Maths No Problem in order to consolidate their strategies for solving problems using place value. We will begin by continuing our excellent progress with multiplication and division skills up to three digit numbers. Soon after, we will be exploring relevant mathematical concepts including interpretation of graphs, fractions, and time. 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

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.

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

Our Art 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. Following the half term break the children will link our exploration of electricity to the design and construction of their own functioning torches.

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:

Children will continue to be taught French by Ms Cole on a weekly basis on Mondays. This term, the children will continue to work on reading and writing short sentences. They 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 continue to be taught music by Ms Pass on a weekly basis on Tuesdays.

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.

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. Pupils will use logical reasoning to explain how some simple algorithms work and to detect and correct errors.



Londinium - A Drawing of Roman London

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 14th January, all children in Class 4L 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 Greenwich Centre. 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. Class 4P will continue with swimming lessons following the half term break.

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. To avoid lost clothing, please ensure that all items are labelled clearly.

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.