

Class 4 Topics for this term

With our commitment to smaller class sizes, I am increasing my teaching commitment this year. I shall be teaching Class 4 every morning and Monday afternoons, other afternoon lessons will be led by Miss, Ebrey, Miss Price and Mrs Capleton.

In **maths** this term we have started off looking at multiplication and division including long multiplication and long division methods. Next up will be an introduction to algebra for the Y6 group and place value of numbers up to one million for the 5/6 group. Next month the focus will be on angles, shapes and nets, some work on area after half term and hopefully fitting in some fractions work before Christmas.

The children need plenty of practice to improve their mental calculation skills so please help them to learn times tables and quick recall of addition and subtraction facts; they are important in so many other areas of mathematics.

We shall focus on one element of calculation each half term - a Key Instant Recall Fact (KIRFs for short). The aim is for the children to be able to calculate and apply their mathematical learning accurately and efficiently. It's important that they know the facts thoroughly and can recall them instantly. This half term the KIRF is based on knowing number bonds and after half term the focus is times tables. I've changed the homework this year to match the KIRFS. Maths homework will be given out each week before the weekend to hand back completed either on or before the following Tuesday.

In **English** lessons this term the children will be writing in a variety of different forms including some poetry and a mix of narrative and non-fiction pieces. They will be encouraged to use some higher order punctuation marks such as hyphens and dashes, commas, colons and semi colons; together with punctuating dialogue correctly. Children should read approximately 20-30 minutes a day. The children have an Accelerated Reader library book (and occasionally a group reading book which mainly stays in school). I don't expect parents to sit and listen to every word every day, the choice is yours, but a small amount of time 2/3 times a week spent hearing your child read will improve your child's reading. Why not ask your child some questions about what they are reading? Please sign the reading record book if you have heard your child read or asked them about their reading. There will be two **spelling** groups in the class: this term the first group's words are all based around mastering the National Curriculum Spelling list for

Y4; the second group are learning commonly misspelled words, homophones and words from the Y6 spelling list. In Monday's assessment the children should aim to achieve a pass rate of at least 8/10 or higher on the words tested.

We'll be learning about **Life in Britain before the Romans**. We'll look at various aspects of life during this period. After half term the topic will be more **Geography** based, asking the question 'Why is it so dangerous to live on the west coast of America?'

In **Science** we start by thinking about all things to do with Sound and later focusing on Healthy Hearts. We're recording our science in 'Big Books' this year, more information on this at a later date.

PE lessons are scheduled for Monday and Friday each week. Monday's lesson will be taught by Jack from Sports Mates, Tag Rugby will be the first sport he's focussing on. Miss Price will lead a second PE session each Friday afternoon which will include some Gymnastics work. Some weeks there will be PE as part of house activities too. Children will require blue PE shorts and a blue t-shirt, pumps or trainers. Children may prefer to wear tracksuits for outside lessons. Please make sure your child has all the correct PE kit in school at all times.

I will be helping to inspire a love of the **French** language and culture with the children. I would like the children to be confident to speak and understand useful French phrases and sentences and begin to follow written French too. Themes to be followed include: Animals, Habitats, Places in the locality and Directions.

As well as practising a variety of drawing skills in **Art** there will be an opportunity to explore Celtic patterns, jewellery and possibly some batik work. Within **Design and Technology** the theme is mechanisms (but I haven't decided what yet!)

This term within our **RE** we will be looking at Judaism. The learning will focus on the key questions; 'How special is the relationship Jews have with God?'. Later the focus switches to 'What is the most significant part of the Nativity story for Christmas today?'

In addition, every Wednesday there is also Wake up Sing up sessions with Mr Bennett, house activities (including Forest School) and cookery sessions with Mrs Hughes.