

Summer in Year 4!

Welcome back!

I hope you have all had a wonderful Easter break. I can't believe that we have reached the final term of the year already!

Over the next term, children will be learning a variety of new skills and building on their previous ones. We have lots of exciting learning opportunities planned and cannot wait to see the progress your children make over the coming weeks.

If you need any support, clarification or help at all please ask. Although I may not be able to help there and then, we can arrange a time for me to do so.

General Information:

PE will still be on Monday's and Tuesday's each week. Please make sure that children wear appropriate PE kit and have any piercings either removed or covered.

Homework:

New homework goes out on a Friday.

Children will be given a spelling test every Thursday and new spellings will be sent home every Friday with their homework. Spelling tests will take place each Thursday.

Maths homework will be to continue to practise Times Tables Rock Stars. It is recommended that the children spend **21 minutes a week** on TTRS to develop their skills. Login details for this were given out earlier in the year. Please speak to me if you need this.

Reading:

In Whole Class Reading, we will be focusing many of our lessons on a book called "Majestic Mountains". This is a non-fiction book which explores a range of scientists and their discoveries. During spring 2, we will be looking at "The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe". We ask that the children do not read these texts at home to not spoil any surprises in the text.

We will also be exploring a variety of books, extracts, poems and song lyrics to enhance our reading skills.

English:

To begin the half term, the children will be exploring the Lost Happy Endings where we will be developing our description skills and further developing our dialogue to help interweave it into the narrative

In Summer 2, we will be looking at Gregory Cool and applying our action writing skills to write about the character's interaction with a threat.

As with last term, I do ask that if you can avoid using these books at home please do. This allows the children to fully immerse themselves in the book and all learn at the same time. In our English lessons, the children will be developing their drafting and editing skills before

completing a best version of their work.

SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) will be also be taught throughout English lessons as it was last half term. There is a huge emphasis on spelling as well as being able to understand and use the correct grammar and punctuation in Year 4 as with all other years. To support the spellings that the children will be completing at home, they will be completing activities each day across the week and building on skills throughout the year.

Spellings:

Each week the children will be continuing to bring home a spelling list based on a specific spelling rule. It is important that the children practise their spellings at home. This will help inform their writing in English lessons and the pieces of work that they produce. Spelling tests will take place on a Thursday. If 75% of the class do not score 8/10, the rule/word list will be retested the following week until this is achieved.

Handwriting:

The children will also continue to have a handwriting lesson three times a week. They will focus on joining letters and developing stamina when writing. Children who show consistent neat handwriting may also receive a pen license which they can use in their books.

Maths:

In maths we will be covering:

Decimals

Time

Position and Direction

In June, the children will be completing the statutory Multiplication Times table Check (MTC). Children have to demonstrate they can recall their times tables quickly by answering questions on an online test. PLEASE do not panic about this! The children have been working hard towards this and I am confident they will do brilliantly! We will be asking you to support us in this by ensuring children complete the Times Table Rock Star challenges and activities to increase their fluency. This will aid their problem-solving and reasoning skills too.

History

Our spring topic for History will be exploring the Anglo Saxons. We will be looking at the push and pull factors of why the Anglo Saxons came to England before looking at what life was like in England during this period.

Geography

For Geography, we will be making comparisons between the UK and Russia. They will be looking at where Russia is located and compare its physical and human features with the UK. Later in the topic, we will look at the Biomes of Russia and the 6 main climates across the world.

Later in the term, we will be looking at the Water Cycle and developing our map work skills. The children will be building on their understanding of the Water Cycle from Science lessons last half term. They will then move onto looking at 4 and 6 figure grid references and how they can be used to pinpoint things on a map.

Art

This half term, the children will be looking at Sculpture, Structure, Inventiveness and Determination. In this topic. The children explore formal drawing and sculpture skills like line, mark making, shape, form, balance and structure, but they also just as importantly explore how it feels to make art. They look at a lot of artwork inspired by birds and end up making their own nests out of clay and natural materials!

DT

Next half term, the children will be looking at structures. They will be designing and making a party box for a guest to put a piece of celebration cake in.

Science

For science this half term we be looking at Electricity. We will be creating simple circuits and looking at how they are drawn as scientific diagrams, including using the correct symbols for various parts of the circuit

After half term, the children will move onto looking at Living Things. In this topic, the children will be exploring different ways they can classify animals and other living things. They will also look at the features of a living thing.

Music

The children will continue with their music lessons on a Tuesday Morning. The children will continue to develop their skills when playing the P-bone as well as taking part in opportunities to sing as part of a group. Please make sure that instruments are in on a Tuesday if you have signed to take them home. If they are not brought back for 2 weeks in a row, then your child will not be able to take them home.

RE

This half term, the children will be looking at the key question *What is It like to be a Hindu?* Where they will explore themes of community, worship and celebration.

After half term, the children will be looking at values and answering the question "*What matters most?*" They will be linking the ideas of values to Christians and Humanists.

PSHE (Jigsaw)

This half term will be focussing on 'relationships. This will include identifying special people in our lives and the relationship we have with them. Finally, we will look at 'changing me'. This will include the changes that happens to boys' and girls' bodies and also very brief explanation of conception and how puberty relates to this.

Computing

In computing this half term, the children will begin by exploring photo editing skills. They will look at the features of a well edited photo before having a go at creating their own art working using existing photos.

After half term, the children will be moving onto further developing their coding through exploring how they can use repetition in their coding.

As with each term, online safety is a huge focus and will be explored at the start of the lesson each week.

Please can you also ensure that your child brings multiple drink bottles to school with them every day along with a snack for break time.

Finally, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me either in person or via Year4.als@annielennard.sandwell.sch.uk – I will endeavour to reply as quickly as possible within working hours.

I look forward to this term ahead.

Mr Smith, Miss Adam and Mrs Saeed