

Year 4 Summer 1 Newsletter 2019

I am a reader

Dear Parents and Guardians

We thoroughly enjoyed our last topic about ancient Egypt. The children were mesmerised by the civilization and reflected on our own lives and cultures in the process. We are looking forward to revisiting the topic at the Alhambra theatre this term to watch *Horrible Histories: Awesome Egyptians*.

Our whole school topic term this is '**I Am a Reader**'. All children in school will apply their reading skills across the curriculum to explore a vast range of authors and genres. In Year 4 our main focus will be the works of the Bronte sisters. We hope that you find the following, additional information useful in supporting your child's learning at home.

The medium-term plan can be accessed on the school website on our class page at:

www.bankfootprimary.co.uk

PSHCE

Our SEAL topic this term is **Relationships**. The topic provides children with the opportunity to develop their confidence in forming friendships and maintaining healthy relationships with their peers. They will learn about how their actions affect others and how to make valuable contributions to society.

Geographers

As Geographers, we will be investigating the physical geography of the local area, investigating how natural resources are used and how land use has changed over the years. We will link with history with a detailed investigation of Bronte country.

Historians

We will also be exploring the literary history of Bradford's famous authors, the Bronte Sisters, reading a children's version of **Jane Eyre** as

our class reader. We will be investigating the era they lived in and how people lived then and in the Victorian era, comparing their experiences to our modern lives.

Artists and Design Technologists

Art- As artists we will be identifying the specific techniques used by different artists and use our critique to evaluate their work. We will be reading about their reasoning behind their artwork and make our own inferences on what their art may represent. We will be replicating some techniques in our sketch books.

Scientists

This term, we will be researching famous scientists. We will delve into their childhood; their past successes and failures and analyse why they are so important today. We will be reading about their lives and put ourselves in their shoes to make inferences on what it may have been like to be them. Through this research we will be writing autobiographies based on these scientists.

We will also be continuing our sound investigating by creating our own instruments and have many opportunities to experiment, explore and increase our awe and wonder.

Spiritual Thinkers

The modern world needs young people who are sufficiently confident in their own beliefs and values that they can respect the religious and cultural differences of others and contribute to a compassionate society.

In class 4KH we will be exploring the deep question '**How do believers use symbolism to show their beliefs?**' We will express our thoughts; discuss what we know and research how this symbolism is expressed through the three religions Christianity, Islam and Judaism.

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Musicians

As Musicians, the children will use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes. They will play tuned and un-tuned instruments musically. The children will be reading a range of free-verse, narrative and rhythmic poetry. The aim will be to learn one off by heart to take part in a class recital.

Modern Foreign Languages

As linguists we will begin to appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in Arabic or French. We will read stories and tales in both languages.

Health & Fitness

Our focus this half term will be to develop our co-ordination, symmetry and strength through gymnastics. Strength and stamina are vital to this unit and we will also be using circuit training to increase our fitness.

Swimming

It is a statutory requirement that all children learn to swim, so we can stay safe around water. Regular swimming sessions outside school would ensure that the children get sufficient time to practise skills they have learned and build up their stamina and confidence to progress in swimming.

As we move into the final quarter of the year, we must all achieve our national curriculum award in swimming, of 25 meters and treading water. We are becoming confident and quality swimmers, building our strength and stamina. Many children have achieved their 25 metre badge and some are beginning to work towards Grade 1- learning survival skills. Please be aware swimming will commence in all weathers and children must wear appropriate clothing to keep them safe and dry on the walk to the baths.

Speak out. Stay Safe - Tell! Tell! Tell!



Please remind the children the importance of being good to themselves and to others. We want the children to feel happy, safe and secure. We want our children to have strength to say no!

If there is ever a problem or they feel uncomfortable, please remind them to speak out. They must tell, tell, tell: tell a teacher! Tell a parent! Tell a responsible adult!

Forth coming events

Bank Holiday Monday - Monday 6 May

Alhambra Theatre visit Horrible Histories: Awesome Egyptians - Thursday 16 May 2019

Next term –

Reports - Thursday 20 June

Parent's consultations - Tuesday 25

Wednesday 26 June

Roman Workshop - Friday 5 July

Haworth visit - Tuesday 16 July

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Rewards

In year 4, we have lots of opportunity to celebrate our successes throughout the day. We have golden time weekly, on a Friday afternoon, where the children can spend some free time in class or outside celebrating their hardworking week. Class points, house points and conduct awards all provide pupils the opportunity to celebrate their **outstanding** behaviour and conduct within school.

Class book

This term we will be writing our own 'This is 4KH' booklet. The children will work together to create the booklet; in small groups each to design a page, with the purpose to welcome anyone including students and teachers into our class. They will design their page on their Chromebook using the collaborative page sharing tool on Google docs or Google draw to share ideas with their partners.

Roles and Responsibilities

We have taken the responsibility of improving our environment by taking care of our classroom and shared area. We have discussed as a class what our responsibilities are as pupils of Bankfoot and the things we can do to promote this. We allocated roles of different monitors for example: Chromebook monitors, energy monitors, librarians etc. We have already begun making in impact and our working environment is much nicer. We will look at more areas we can improve this term.

Targets, Goals and Progress

Every half term, we discuss the children's targets and goals. It gives them the chance to

reflect on what has worked well and the opportunity for them to set personal goals ready for the term ahead.

Personal Achievements

There is so much to celebrate in Year 4! A number of our children have begun to bring in medals and awards they have achieved outside of school to celebrate their success with their peers. We have several budding football stars and two Taekwondo champions to name a few!

Please let us know if you have an achievement you wish to share, or a medal or award to bring in. We will be creating a 'Show and Tell' time each week on a Friday afternoon to showcase our achievements.

Fundraising

Mrs Wright set us a class challenge to see if we could take a £75 budget investment and think of an enterprising scheme to create a profit for our class fund.

The children came up with fantastic ideas such as bun baking; a sponsored football shoot out; soap making and other fundraising activities. They were all very eager to share their ideas and look forward to discussing how to spend the profit. It was great to see the children so supportive of other pupils' ideas and making positive contributions.

Finally

We very much appreciate and value the support you give your child. The school/home partnership plays an extremely important role in your child's progress and their learning journey. Some of the children take the time to do extra research of topics and practice of skills at home. Thank you for supporting us in encouraging your child to be an independent learner. Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Year 4 team.