

Reminders

Homework – Your child will be given homework (maths and a topic homework) every week on a Friday and it is due to be handed in on the following Wednesday. Your child will also get a reading book and weekly spellings. Homework is not marked in as much detail as your child's normal work but your child may receive house points or special recognition awards for their efforts in their homework.

If you would like extra homework for your child, or if you are finding that your child is struggling, please speak to the class teacher as we have strategies, resources and mastery challenges for the children to complete.

P.E. - The children will have PE on a Thursday and a Friday and they will need: House coloured T-Shirt and shorts for indoor P.E, plus a sweatshirt/tracksuit etc. and trainers for outdoors.

Please ensure that all items of uniform are named, hair is tied up and that your child is not wearing any jewellery, including earrings.

Helping Your Child With Reading

As a parent, you can play an important role in helping your child learn to read. Research shows that children who are helped at home make better progress in school.

- Choose any books that appeal to your child, for example, stories or information, books on hobbies/interests, such as football or animals. Newspapers, magazines, recipes, games instructions can be read together.
- Find a quiet, relaxing place away from distractions such as the TV.
- Sit comfortably in good light and talk to your child about their book.
- Read for about **10 minutes every day**; a regular short time of quality is better than a long session which happens only occasionally.
- Be supportive and positive during this time, please comment in their diary.
- If they get stuck on a word, you could:
 - let them read on so they can work out the word themselves from the context
 - point to a picture if it will help them guess the meaning
 - give them the first or last sounds to help them
 - read the word for them (especially if it is a Proper Name)
 - when they are confident with sounds, let them sound out unknown words – break longer words down into syllables
 - do not sound out words which are not phonetic e.g. 'because'
- When a mistake is self-corrected or a previously unknown word is recognised, **praise highly**.
- Encourage expressive reading by drawing attention to punctuation.

Year 4 Spring Term Curriculum Update 2018-2019



Important Dates for the Term

(Subject to change)

Viking trip (Gunpowder mills) 25th January

Year 4 assembly 31st January

Open afternoon 14th February

Half term treat 15th February

Half term 18th - 22nd February

Assessment week 4th-8th March

World book day 7th March

Easter journey 26th March

Long reports out 29th March

Parents evening 2nd April

End of term treat 4th April

Easter day and break up for Easter holidays 5th April

Spring Term Curriculum

English

We are taking part in a whole school writing project on a book called 'Journey' by Aaron Becker. We will be exploring and extending our vocabulary and writing fiction on our work. We will be looking at narrative poetry using 'The spider and the fly' focusing on performing poetry with expression as well as creating pieces of writing based upon the book. After half term we will be exploring explanation texts through Dr Xargle's Book of Earthlets as our main model text and finishing off the term with the day the crayons quit.

Maths

We will be starting off the term with shape looking at properties and symmetry. Following on from that will be decimals numbers, introducing the children to them up to 2dp and getting them to calculate with them (including word problems). After half term we will be spending a few weeks on fractions focusing on adding and subtracting them, ordering and comparing them, looking at equivalent fractions and fractions of amounts. We will finish off the term with learning the formal written methods for division and multiplication looking at just 2 and 3 digit numbers multiplied and divided by a 1 digit number.

Computing

Children will be learning to programme a game using a variety of programmes including Scratch. They will be creating algorithms and testing and debugging these. They are going to end up creating a simple mathematical game.

Topic

We will be studying the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons this term – following on from our work on the Romans in Year 3. Our trip (to Gunpowder Mills) will be based around their history and lives. Work in class will also look at the routes of these groups and where they originated from.

Science

The children we be creating their own circuits, testing conductors and insulators to see if electricity can pass through normal classroom items. The children will also be investigating 'sound' and understanding how it's measured and getting to know the different parts of the ear and how vibration works.

RE

In RE we will be learning more about Christianity and Sikhism. We will be preparing questions to ask a Sikh visitor who is visiting us in February to understand more about his religion. We will also be looking at the various foods and traditions people have at Easter.

Music

In Music the children will be exploring using body percussion to accompany songs. They will also be learning songs about looking after the environment. To tie in with our Science topic we will also be exploring communication and sound through songs and instruments.

PE

We will be doing hockey, gymnastics and street dance learning the importance of teamwork, rhythm and enhancing our flexibility and timing.

French

We will be doing 30 minute French session each week looking at names of transport, describing weather and numbers.

PSHE

We will be focusing on wellbeing in PSHE making sure the children know strategies to deal with emotions their mental health.

Art & DT

In art we will be making some Viking money containers and we will also be learning to make scrambled egg.

Learning Commitments – Spring 2019

Following feedback from parents about how they can help their children with their learning, we are trialing learning commitments this term and hope to get some parental feedback. Learning Commitments are targets that parents will engage with at home with their children in addition to your child's weekly homework. These may be life skills, academic skills or topic linked skills which the children are going to need to develop over the course of the term.

Year 4's Summer Term Learning Commitments

- Be able to tell the time to the nearest 5 mins on an analogue clock.
- To learn their 3, 4 and 8 times tables (in any order).
- To be responsible for packing their bag for the school day, ensuring they have everything they need. Also to be responsible for packing their bags at the end of every day – making sure they have their reading books, home/school diary, spellings and homework for when they are due. Also making sure anything extra e.g. Forest school clothes, guitars etc are with them.
- Learn a new WOW word every week (advanced vocabulary e.g. an adjective like gargantuan) use it in your work and tell us what it means.