

## Reminders

**Homework** – Your child will be given maths homework every week on a Friday and it is due to be handed in on the following Wednesday. Topic homework will be sent on the first week in a grid and your child is to complete **at least 4 of them over the term**. 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 Monday and Wednesday 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

### 2019-2020



### Important Dates for the Term

**(Subject to change)**

Writing project starting 7<sup>th</sup> January for 3 weeks

School disco – 16<sup>th</sup> January

Writing awards – 7<sup>th</sup> February

Watching Billionaire Boy – 14<sup>th</sup> February

*Half term – WB 1<sup>st</sup> February*

Year 4 assessment week – WB 2<sup>nd</sup> March

World book day – 5<sup>th</sup> March

STEM week – 9<sup>th</sup> March

Pixmore maths day – 17<sup>th</sup> March

Year 4 assembly – 19<sup>th</sup> March

Reports go out – 20<sup>th</sup> March

Parents evening – 24<sup>th</sup> March

Easter day and end of term – 3<sup>rd</sup> April

## Spring Term Curriculum

### English

We are taking part in a whole school writing project on a book called 'Flotsam' by David Wiesner. We will be exploring and extending our vocabulary and writing both fiction and nonfiction using this book as a stimulus. 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 looking at writing play scripts and linking this with our topic learning by basing it on the story of Beowulf. We will also be exploring explanation texts through Dr Xargle's Book of Earthlets as our main model text and finishing.

### 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 will be will 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 exploring some of the traditions of the Sikh religion and their different beliefs. We will be finishing off the term looking more into Christianity and the Easter story with a fun filled Easter day full of activities on the final day before the end of term.

### Music

Over the spring term, the children will be learning and performing poems about the four seasons and accompanying them with appropriate instruments to represent the characteristics of each season.

### PE

This term the children will be developing their skills in indoor athletics, gymnastics, netball, tri golf and speed stacks.

### French

We will be doing 30 minute French session each week looking at numbers, dates, colours, likes/dislikes and money

### PSHE

We will be focusing on wellbeing in PSHE making sure the children are aware of different people and to be tolerant of others.

### 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.