



Year 4 Spring Term Newsletter

Welcome back to Year 4 and Happy New Year! Thank you for your generosity before Christmas. I hope you have all had a wonderful and relaxing Christmas holiday and the children are ready for an action-packed and exciting term.

This half term our value is WISDOM and after half term our value will be HOPE.

English

Our English lessons will continue to centre on a variety of high quality texts including *'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'* and *'Jabberwocky'*, which will enable the children to explore a vast range of genres and concepts. If you are able, you may want to purchase your own copy of *'The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe'* by C.S. Lewis. Amazon are currently selling copies for £5.76. If this is not possible, I will be photocopying the story for those that need it.

Spelling work is directly linked to the learning during the lesson. Grammar is taught within our scheme of work using activities, games, videos and songs.

All children are expected to read regularly at home and we ask that yellow reading diaries are filled in regularly by the children.

Homework

Homework will be sent home on Friday and must be handed back in by the following Wednesday. As a reminder, homework should not take longer than 45 minutes a week. We will have a weekly spellings test on Friday mornings.

R.E

Our topics for the term are *'What do the miracles of Jesus teach?'* and *'What do the monastic traditions within Christianity, show us about living in community?'* We shall also be learning about what happens in churches at Easter.

Maths

Our Math's lessons start a new cycle in the Spring term, where we revisit all the strands taught in the Autumn term. We will be consolidating previous lessons and extending the children's learning in place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, mental methods, mass and time. We focus on the children's knowledge and skills by giving them a reasoning challenge as part of their weekly lessons where they must give reasons for the solution to a mathematical statement or problem.

I would also like to see the children carry on the good work they are doing on Time Tables Rock Stars. Please feel free to email me on: info@nutfield.surrey.sch.uk if login details have gone missing.

Science, Computing & DT

Our science topic this term asks the question, can all living things be classified the same way? We will recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. We will explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment. We will look at how environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things. After half term we will look at the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans. Identify the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions, construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers and predators and prey.

In DT this term we will be asking the children to cook a repertoire of predominantly savoury dishes so that they are able to feed themselves and others a healthy and varied diet. In computing we will be discussing how to stay safe online.

Geography

Our topic in Geography for the first half of term is, Who are the global caretakers? We are! We will be looking at key aspects of human geography, including: economic activity and the distribution of natural resources including energy and water. We will also be able to describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts. After half term we will focus on changes in the local area and take an active enquiry-based approach. The fieldwork element involves planning work for another group to carry out (demanding clarity and precision in giving instructions) and developing and practising specific fieldwork skills such as using a compass and four-figure grid references.

P.E

PE will continue to take place on Monday. Please ensure your child has the correct P.E kit: navy blue shorts/tracksuit bottoms (especially during these colder months), yellow T-shirts and trainers (no plimsoles). **Please make sure all items of your child's P.E kit are named.** P.E. kits should be brought to school on Monday and will be sent home on Friday for washing.

PPA

My weekly non-contact time will rotate between a Friday morning and Friday afternoon. During this time, the children will be taught by Mrs Boyle. In the morning, she will teach English/Maths and Art, French or Music and in the afternoon.

Uniform

Please check that ALL items of your child's uniform, including coats and bags, are clearly labelled to help them become more responsible and independent. The school uniform is grey trousers or skirt/dress with a yellow polo shirt and blue Nutfield Church jumper/cardigan. Please ensure your child has a winter coat during the colder months.

History

In this final topic, covering the civilisation of Ancient Greece, children learn about the legacy of the Greeks, which can still be felt in many aspects of present day life.

Through a wide range of cross-curricular activities, children explore Ancient Greek influence on science and mathematics, through the work of Archimedes and Pythagoras. They discuss the wisdom of the ideas of well-known Greek philosophers and the Greek system of democracy. Children explore the structure of Greek myths, which can be found in countless book and film narratives, and investigate the way our language has been influenced by Ancient Greece. Finally, children will draw comparisons between the ancient and modern Olympic Games.

After half term we will be exploring the Roman Empire at its height, including social, military and cultural aspects of life in Ancient Rome in order to gain a grounded understanding of who the Romans were and how they lived.

Expressive Art

Our art lessons this term will focus on drawing and sculpture and exploring the work of artist Frida Kahlo. The children will develop their skills in self-portrait and portrait drawings. After half term they will create a sculpture based on their portrait or self-portrait drawings.

Music this term will focus on learning the song 'Stop!' Which is a song that focuses on bullying.

In French we will be learning about 'My Town'. We will learn the different shop names and where these are located.

Wellbeing

During Wellbeing this term the children will **constructing our new look 'Bug Hotel' and writing a diary to explain what we have done at each stage.** We are planning a grand unveiling in the summer once the renovation works have been completed.

Dates to remember

PTFA Cinema Night - Tuesday 25th January 2022 3.15pm - 5.30pm

Year 4 Class Collective Worship - Wednesday 2nd February 2022 - 9.00am

Half Term - Monday 14th February - 18th February 2022

Tuesday 1st March 2022 - *St. David's Day* - yellow shirt

MTC

The multiplication tables check (MTC) is statutory for primary schools in the 2021/22 academic year. The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will help schools to identify pupils who have not yet mastered their times tables, so that additional support can be provided.

As a class we are already working on our times tables. If you would like to support your children from home, you can practise the MTC using the website below:

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>

This replicates the test and will show the children what is required of them.

And finally...

If you have any quick questions or concerns please feel free to catch me in the playground at the end of the day. If you would like to speak me more privately, please let me know or contact the school office to arrange an appointment. Please do keep an eye on the school website which lists all the key dates for the Spring term.

Mr Proffitt and Mrs Hickey - Year 4 Class Team