

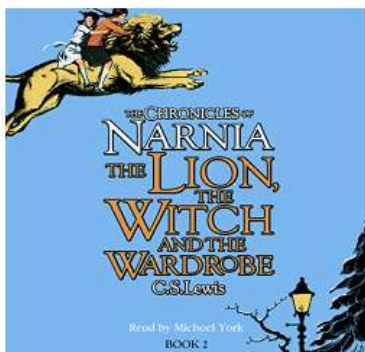


## Year 4 Spring Term Newsletter

Welcome back to school after the Christmas break. We hope you had an enjoyable and peaceful Christmas with your families and loved ones. We would like to thank you and your children for our lovely presents and hope that you have a very Happy New Year. This half term, our value is WISDOM. After half term, our value will be HOPE.

### English & Maths

These core subjects continue to be a major focus in school. We will be teaching English writing and grammar daily through carefully chosen quality texts, including 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' and 'Jabberwocky'. Daily Guided Reading sessions will focus on Year 4 reading targets and there will be a weekly spelling focus and test. Please note, it will greatly aid your child if they have their own copy of 'The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe' by C.S. Lewis. Amazon and local book shops are currently selling copies or you may like to try one of the local libraries (any publication of the text will be fine to use).



### Maths

In Maths, the children will start with a module on 'Multiplication and Division'. They will be introduced to factor pairs and will embed and develop their understanding of multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100. The children then bring together the skills learnt so far in this block to explore calculations related to known facts. We will also be using a variety of informal written methods to multiply a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number. We will then move onto to learning about 'Length and Perimeter' measuring in kilometres and metres. The children will be able to measure the perimeter of a rectangle and rectilinear shapes including finding missing lengths in rectilinear shapes.

### RE

Our topic for this half term is 'What do the miracles of Jesus teach?' The children will be exploring what constitutes a miracle, some of the miracles that Jesus performed and will give a personal response to his miracles. After half term, our topic will be 'What do the monastic traditions within Christianity, show us about living in community?' The children will be learning about the different models of monastic life, some which are active and others which are contemplative. We shall also be learning about what happens in churches during Lent and Easter. In particular, Ash Wednesday, Passiontide, Passion Sunday and Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Day. The children will be able to develop their understanding of how the living out of ritual in church at Easter inspires and influences Christians.

### Homework

Homework will continue to be set home on each Friday with spellings on 'Purple Mash' and times tables on 'Times Tables Rock Stars'. The children are expected to read for at least 15 minutes each evening.

### Please ensure...

Your child brings their reading book and reading record to school on a daily basis and that their PE kit is in school every Tuesday. Whilst the weather is cold, your child should have a coat in school and they may wear tracksuit bottoms for outdoor PE sessions.

### Science, Computing and Design Technology

Our Science topic this term is 'Living Things', after half term we will be teaching 'Animals including Humans', with a particular emphasis on digestion. In Computing, the children will be learning how to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly. They will be able to recognise acceptable and unacceptable behaviour whilst being able to identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact. In Design and Technology, the children will be learning how to make a savoury snack as part of a healthy diet.

### Expressive Arts

Our Art lessons this term will focus on drawing and sculpture 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. In our weekly Music lessons, we shall be learning the songs 'Stop!' and 'Lean on Me'. Our topics for French will be shapes, prepositions of place, parts of the face and adjectives, parts of the body and the French artist - Matisse.

### Wellbeing

We will be teaching hockey in the first half term, then basketball and netball in the second half term. Please remember that your child should have their full P.E kit in school every Thursday during term time. PSHE sessions will focus on the topics of 'Caring and Responsibility' and 'Families and Committed Relationships'. As part of Anti-Bullying work, we will be looking at the issues of keeping ourselves safe and what makes a good friend. We continue to teach Philosophy for Children (P4C) to support critical and deeper thinking skills. For the children's outdoor learning focus, they will be monitoring our Bug Hotel to observe its inhabitants and will help to create its new layers.

### Dates for your Diary

22.01.24 - PTFA Cinema Night 3.15 to 5.30  
07.02.24 - Year 4 Collective Worship at 9.05  
21.02.24 - PTFA Bags2School Collection  
23.02.24 - PTFA KS2 Disco (Years 3-6) 5.15 to 6.15  
01.03.24 - St. David's Day - yellow shirt  
15.03.24 PTFA Year 4 Cake Sale 3.15 to 3.45  
18.03.24 - St. Patrick's Day - green shirt  
25.03.24 - Parent and Carer Evening 3.30 to 6.00  
26.03.24 - Parent and Carer Evening 3.30 to 6.00  
27.03.24 - Parent and Carer Evening 3.30 to 6.00

### History

This half term the children will be learning about 'Ancient Egypt'. They will use maps and timelines to identify where and when the earliest civilisations appeared. The children will create some Egyptian-style jewellery and recreate some Egyptian hieroglyphs. They will also be able to describe what is known about why and how the great pyramids were built and will create a model of the Great Pyramid at Giza.

### Geography

After half term, the children will be studying 'Weather'. They will learn that the weather is made up of seven elements and will use different techniques for measuring elements of weather.

### Gatton Park Trip

You will have received an email before Christmas regarding our next school trip on **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March** to Gatton Park in Redhill. The children will be participating in two workshops; 'Woodland Explorers' and 'Art in the Park'. The total cost of the trip is £20 which can be paid in two instalments of £10 through Scopay. If you have any concerns over payment for the trip please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

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.