

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Year 4 parents/carers,

### Year 4 Curriculum Letter - Autumn 1

#### Message from the teachers

Welcome to Year 4! We are very much looking forward to welcoming our Y4 back and beginning our exciting learning journey! We have lots of fun this year with a great curriculum and lots of great practical activities. We hope they are well rested and looking forward to a memorable year. This letter will give you an idea of some of the lessons your child can look forward to during the first half term.

#### Our Core Values

Happiness: we spread joy to those around us.

Compassion: we care and are kind to all.

Respect: we treat others as we like to be treated.

Teamwork: we work well with everyone.

#### Year 4 Staffing

Juniper class teacher: Miss Evans

Spruce class teacher: Mrs Culham

Year 4 learning support assistants: Mrs Wilson, Miss Heffernan and Mrs Eyre

#### Communication

You can email class teachers directly on the class email accounts and we will do our best to get back to you within two working days.

[juniperclass@harefieldjunior.com](mailto:juniperclass@harefieldjunior.com)

[spruceclass@harefieldjunior.com](mailto:spruceclass@harefieldjunior.com)

#### Homework

Homework, along with answers, will be emailed to parents every Monday, starting next week.

#### Autumn Term Learning

This half term we will be learning the following in each subject area.

#### English

Year 4 will be continuing the Talk for Writing approach learning to write finding tales from a text called, 'Adventure at Sandy Cove' where the main characters find something that causes a problem. Can it be solved? Following the finding tale, we will be writing an explanation text about an animal, which I am sure the children will enjoy investigating!

#### Mathematics

In maths this half term, year 4 will be developing their knowledge of place value up to 10 thousand and rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000. We will then introduce negative numbers and Roman numerals. Also in this half term, we will be using our knowledge of addition and subtraction up to 4 digits and explore different strategies for efficient calculation. We will of course be practising our times tables regularly in preparation for the Y4 times table SAT.

Please help the children prepare for this at home by following this helpful link to a suggested website:

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

This is an example of a word problem the children will be given to develop their reasoning skills:

It is an example of a 'hedging' question where the children are encouraged to look for the possibility of more than one answer and then be able to explain their reasoning.

Two different two-digit numbers both round to 40 when rounded to the nearest 10

The sum of the two numbers is 79

What could the two numbers be?

Is there more than one possibility?

### **Science**

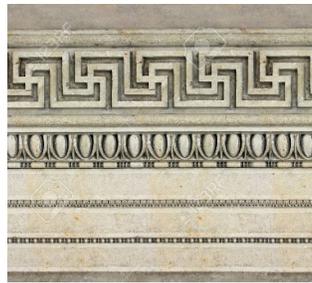
The year 4 science unit this term is titled 'Switched On'. The focus of this unit is on electricity and being able to identify electrical items and whether they are mains or battery operated. In this unit, there are lots of practical activities investigating simple circuits.

### **History**

'The Ancient Egyptians' is the title for the year 4 history unit this half term. The children will be exploring who the Ancient Egyptians were, what they did, and discuss whether Ancient Egypt deserves its reputation as one of the most important early civilisations. We are hoping to organise a trip to the British Museum to support this unit soon!

### **Art and Design**

In art this term, Year 4 exploring two of the formal elements of art: texture and pattern; the children will develop a range of mark-making techniques, make and use their own textured stamps for printing; draw a 'flip' pattern and recreate a famous and ancient geometric pattern.



*Repeating Patterns*

### **Physical Education**

The two P.E. units in year 4 this half term are 'Nimble Nets' and 'Cool Core (Pilates)'. Nimble Nets is the sport unit and the children will have fun developing their hand eye coordination as well as serving and completing a successful rally with a partner. Cool Core is our fitness unit this half term and focuses on balance and coordination, requiring the children to explore different techniques to support their balance and create sequences with a partner. Both year 4 classes will have their outdoor PE session on a Thursday and the indoor on a Friday. Please send your child to school wearing their P.E. kit on these days.

### **French**

The year 4 French unit this half term is 'Portraits'. The children will learn vocabulary to describe different aspects of their appearance, including the colour of their hair and eyes as well as words relating to their personality and characteristics.

### **Religious Education**

Year 4 will be learning about the life of the Buddha and exploring how he tried to be happy and stay happy. The unit encourages the children to discuss the question: 'Is it possible for everyone to be happy?'.

### **Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education**

'Being Me' is the first PSHE unit, where the children will look forward to the year ahead and make appropriate goals that they would like to achieve, and consider the obstacles that may concern them. They will then be introduced to the universal rights of the child and use these discussions to contribute to the creation of a whole class charter.

Please feel free to contact us via the class email accounts should you have any questions over the term ahead.

Yours faithfully

Miss Evans and Mrs Culham