

Monday 8th November 2021

Dear Year 4 parents/carers,

Year 4 Curriculum Letter - Autumn 2

Message from the teachers

Welcome back, Year 4. We hope you are excited about the next phase in your learning, which we are very much looking forward to building on from the first half of the autumn term. Christmas will soon be upon us where we will decorate the tree, watch a pantomime and prepare for our carol concert. In the lead up to this fun time, we will be covering anti-bullying week, show our respect for Remembrance Day and learn about several festivals that various religions will be celebrating in the coming weeks.

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 a couple of working days.

juniperclass@harefieldjunior.com

spruceclass@harefieldjunior.com

Homework

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

A banded reading book will sent home every Monday and should be returned by the Friday.

Autumn Term Learning

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

English:

This half term we will be developing our writing skills with a warning tale called 'The Caravan'. We will learn the story first using a pictures while building up our grammar knowledge before starting to innovate our own version of this text. Once we have finished this narrative unit, we will begin our non-narrative, which is a newspaper recount linked to the infamous story of a bean plant being cut down!

Mathematics:

In maths this half term, year 4 will be continuing to finish their addition and subtraction unit before moving onto measurement. This unit covers the conversion between metric units of length, recaps addition and subtraction skills using lengths before moving onto perimeter. This half term, we will also move onto multiplication and division. We will of course be continuing to practise our times tables regularly in preparation for the Year 4 multiplication test in the summer. 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> or the website called [Hit the button](#).

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

It is an example of a 'reasoning' question where the children are encouraged to explain their answer using mathematical strategies as proof.

6. Mika has travelled $4\frac{1}{4}$ km in a taxi.
Ralph has travelled $\frac{1}{2}$ km more than
3,850m in a taxi.
Ralph says,



My taxi ride
was longer by
100km.

Is Ralph correct? Explain your answer.

Science:

The year 4 science units this half term are titled 'Who am I and 'Changing world' in which children will learn about habitats and classification. The children will enjoy several practical lessons where they will be developing the scientific skills of observing, collecting and analysing. Our Year 4s will be able to classify deciduous trees from evergreen and the types of leaves and flowers produced. Why not try some bark rubbing in your free time and see what different patterns are created?

Geography:

'Rivers and The Water Cycle' is the title for the year 4 geography unit this half term. The children will be exploring the water cycle with a particular focus on rivers. They will learn about how and where rivers begin, learn vocabulary linked with their formation and how rivers contribute to the water cycle. We will use atlases to identify the major world rivers (particularly the River Thames) as well as recreating our own river right here at school!

Design and Technology:

In design & technology this term, Year 4 will analyse and evaluate electrical products as well as identify features of a torch while referring to their last science unit (electricity) to explain how it works. Year 4 will explore designing their own torch before making it, testing it and evaluating it against their own success criteria.



Their torch may look something like this!

Physical Education:

The two P.E. units in year 4 this half term are 'Invaders' and 'Boot Camp'. Invaders looks to practise a variety of ball skills – The ABC (agility, balance and co-ordination) with a strong link to football. By the end of the unit, the children will have practice of dribbling and receiving a ball, moving a ball towards an opponent's goal and how to communicate effectively with members of their team. Boot Camp is about understanding what 'fitness' is by encouraging the children to think about what happens to the body during exercise. They do this while completing a variety of circuit activities. The Year 4 will develop agility and co-ordination by performing complex patterns of movement in this unit.

French:

We have linked our French unit with our Geography topic this term by learning vocabulary linked to the weather and the water cycle. Phrases will include vocabulary for the compass points; counting from 1-100 in multiples of ten; combining this knowledge to make statements about what the temperature is in different parts of France and to deliver a weather forecast. The unit culminates in a French science lesson, where the children explore the water cycle and recognise scientific cognates.

Religious Education:

The theme for Year 4 this half term will be Christmas with a focus on Incarnation. We will retell the nativity story in the coming weeks and the children will, over several lessons, discuss the key question: What is the most significant part of the nativity story for Christians today?

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education:

'Celebrating Differences' is the second PSHE unit, where the children will understand that sometimes people make assumptions about others because of the way they look or act. We will also link into Anti-Bullying week with this unit too where the children will learn that some types of bullying are harder to identify. By the end of the unit, the children will understand it is important to accept people for who they are and will be more confident making decisions about their own actions in certain situations such as being on-line or on the playground.

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