

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022

Dear Year 4 parents/carers and children,

### Year 4 Curriculum Letter- Spring (2<sup>nd</sup> half)

#### Message from the teachers

Welcome back Year 4. We hope you enjoyed your half term holiday. We have some exciting events happening this half term such as trips to the theatre to see The Lion King and a trip to the Roman Verulamium in St Albans. Plus great events in school such as World Book Day!

#### 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

spruceclass@harefieldjunior.com

#### Homework

Homework, along with answers, will be emailed to parents every Monday and should be handed in to teachers on Friday. Please email your child's class teacher if you would like paper copies of homework instead.

A HJS banded reading book will sent home every Monday and should be returned by the Friday. Spelling tests will now be given on Friday following that week's homework.

#### Spring 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 losing story based on the book Lazy Leon. We will begin to explore the story by looking at the text map while developing our grammatical understanding which we apply to our own writing later in the unit. Our non-narrative unit will be based on writing instructions. Try to think about all the different places instructions are seen or used!

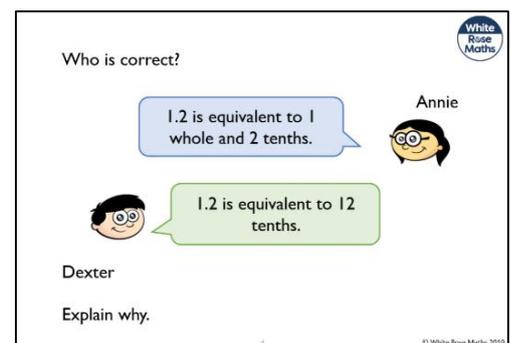
#### Mathematics

In maths this half term, year 4 will be learning about decimals, consolidating their understanding of tenths and hundredths and their place value position as well as extending their learning of dividing by 10 and 100 into decimal numbers. We will continue to practise our times tables regularly in preparation for the Year 4 times table assessments that children are sitting in 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 might be given to develop their reasoning skills with decimals:

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



Who is correct?

1.2 is equivalent to 1 whole and 2 tenths. Annie

1.2 is equivalent to 12 tenths. Dexter

Explain why.

White Rose Maths 2019

### Science

The year 4 science unit this half term is titled 'Good Vibrations'. Children will build on their understanding of hearing. They will develop their vocabulary for describing sounds and identify different sound sources. They will learn that sounds are made by something vibrating and that these vibrations travel through a medium to the ear so that we hear them. They will learn that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases. They will explore ways to change the pitch and volume of sounds.

### Geography

'Earthquakes and Volcanoes' is the title for the year 4 geography unit this half term. In this unit, the children will learn how they are created, the different types and where many are located around the world. We will deepen our understanding in this topic by regularly comparing what we have learned with the UK. We will use atlases to develop our map skills and use opportunities for cross curricular links to practise our reading comprehension and writing skills.

### Design and Technology

In this unit children will explore pavilion structures, learning about what they are used for and investigating how to create strong and stable structures before also designing and creating their own pavilions, complete with cladding.



*A pavilion structure with cladding*

### Physical Education

The two P.E. units in year 4 this half term are 'Dynamic Dance' and 'Mighty Movers (Boxercise)'. The Sport unit teaches children to line dance and create partnered dances that reflect the line dancing style while applying the key components of the dance. Our fitness unit encourages children to develop their stamina and fitness levels and build an aerobic exercise routine including skilled moves. By the end of the unit, the children will learn the value of completing a full boxercise workout.

Please ensure children come in to school wearing weather appropriate clothing in line with the school uniform policy.

**Please also note: Outdoor PE is still on Monday but Indoor PE is now on Wednesday.**

### French

In the second unit this term, the topic 'les vêtements' teaches the children to learn to recognise several items of clothing, understand the different forms of the indefinite article and possessive adjective as well as practice using the correct adjectival agreement and describe what people are wearing.

### Religious Education

The theme for Year 4 this half term will be Easter while discussing possible answers to the question: Is forgiveness always possible for Christians? This unit will explore the concept of salvation by learning to understand how Jesus' life, death and resurrection teaches Christians about forgiveness.

### Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education

'Healthy Me' is the fourth PSHE unit, where the children will discuss positive friendship groups, the different roles people can take in these groups and what to do if they are feeling pressured by friends. We will discuss knowing right from wrong and what we can do in these situations. The effect of smoking and drinking alcohol on our bodies will also be discussed in this unit along with why people might choose to drink and smoke.

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