

Friday 21st October 2022

Dear Year 4 parents/carers,

Year 4 Curriculum Letter - Autumn (2nd half)

Message from the teachers

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

Spruce class teacher: Mrs Culham

Juniper class teacher: Miss Dear

Year 4 learning support assistants: Mrs Clarke and Mrs Wilson

Communication

Please feel free to arrange a meeting should you wish to speak to one of the teachers in person. Alternatively, 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

Each child will now receive a printed copy of the homework every Friday. Please return the homework to your class teacher the following Friday.

We have also subscribed to [Bug Club](#) online reading and [Mathletics](#) online maths activities. Pupils require their own log ins for these websites. Please contact the school office if you need to be reminded what your child's log in details are.

We will be sending new reading books home every Monday. Please remember to send these books back in to school each Monday. A new book will not be issued until the previous one has been returned.

Autumn Term Learning

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

English

Year 4 will be reading 'Stay out of the Basement' a Goosebumps book by R.L. Stine in English this term. The children will create a tale for fear/suspense story based on a character's fear and how they overcome it. Later this half term, we will use the same text to create a set of instructions.



Mathematics

In Maths this half term, Year 4 will be encountering 'area' for the first time. They will be learning that area is the amount of space taken up by a two-dimensional shape or surface. They will explore different ways of working out the area of a shape. Also in this half term, they will move onto multiplication and division, where they will also look at multiplying 3 numbers.

We will continue to practise our times tables, up to 12x12, regularly in preparation for the new Year 4 times tables check which all Year 4 children in England must take at the end of the year. We have subscribed to 'Times Tables Rockstars'. This is a sequenced programme of daily times tables practise. Each week concentrates on a different times table; we will inform you each Friday which times table we will be learning the following week in order to enable your child to practise. We will then consolidate this learning in class with a timed test on that times table using a worksheet with 25 questions. Your child will receive a login and password from their teacher.

Link - <https://play.trockstars.com/ttrs/dashboard>

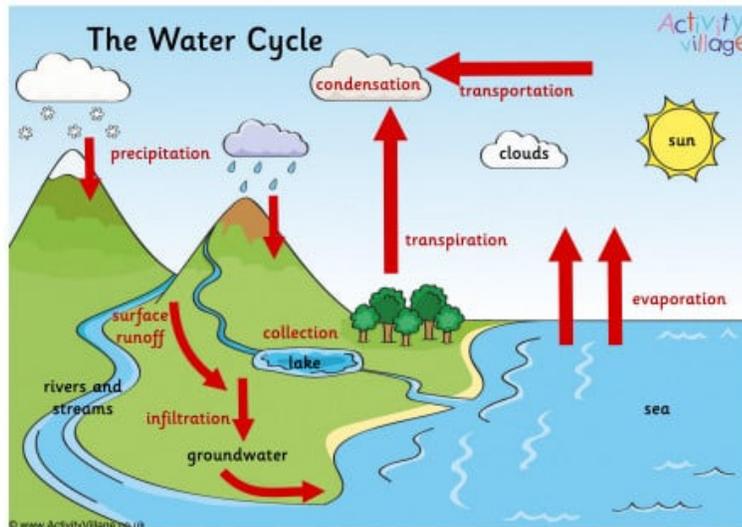
This is an example of a maths word problem the children will be given to develop their reasoning skills:

Kim rolls a 10-sided dice three times.
The product of her numbers is 40
What numbers could she have rolled?
Compare answers with a partner.

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.

Science

Year 4 have two Science units this term. The first unit is 'Our Changing World'. The focus of this unit is on classifying leaves, trees and flowers. Why not try some bark rubbing in your free time and seeing what different patterns are created? The second unit we will be exploring will be 'Who am I?'. The focus of this unit is habitats and the children will be exploring vertebrates and invertebrates.



Geography

'The Water Cycle' is the title for the Year 4 Geography unit this half term. The children will be exploring where all the rain goes and how rivers are formed. We will be utilising our map skills to locate UK and world rivers, where we will be looking at the River Thames and the River Danube in more detail.

Design and Technology

In Design and Technology this term, Year 4 will analyse and evaluate electrical products as well as identify features of a torch. They will be referring to their last Science unit (Switched On) 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.

Physical Education

P.E. will be taking place in Year 4 for both classes on Mondays. Juniper class children will also have another PE lesson on Tuesdays. Please ensure you send your child to school wearing their P.E. kits on these days. The two P.E. units in Year 4 this half term are 'Dynamic Dance' and 'Mighty Movers (Boxercise)'. Dynamic Dance is the sport unit and the children will have fun developing their dancing and performance skills. They will identify and practise the patterns and actions of line dancing. The children will then apply their learning through performing a dance using a range of patterns. Mighty Movers is our fitness unit this half term and focuses on boxing move activities that get the blood pumping and heart racing. The children will then apply their learning through the techniques learned to a routine set to music.

Forest School

Forest School will be taking place each Tuesday afternoon for Spruce Class this half term. The children will be given opportunities to learn in nature, building a range of skills and making observations of the changing seasons.

French

The Year 4 French unit this half term is 'On the Move'. The children will learn to develop their conversational skills via some new topics: transport, direction and movement. They will learn to conjugate the high-frequency verb 'to go' and use it in context.

Religious Education

Year 4 will be exploring 'People of Faith', where they will be learning about the lives of people of faith from different religions. They will identify key events in their lives, how their faith and beliefs have influenced them to overcome challenging circumstances, and how it has inspired their lives

and work. They will compare and contrast these experiences throughout the unit. Children will explore their stories before examining the role of beliefs and/or faith in their own lives.

Music

Our specialist music teacher, Miss Macheta, will be in school every Wednesday to teach Year 4 music lessons, focusing on learning to play the violin.



Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education

'Celebrating Differences' is the second PSHE unit, where the children will look at accepting everyone for who they are, understanding who influences them, bullying, problem solving and respect for themselves and others.

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

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Culham and Miss Dear
Year 4 teachers