



Autumn Term Newsletter 2023

Year 4

“I have called you by name” Isaiah 43:1

Welcome: Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back, I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you all have had a lovely break ready for the start of the new school year. During this Year, Year 4 will have their PE on Fridays (Some of these lessons will be the Year 4 swimming lessons) so children will need to come into school in their PE clothes on this day. Please ensure reading books and water bottles are brought into school each day. Every Monday, Home Learning and Spellings will be set. Children will be tested on their spellings the following Monday, giving the children a week to complete all tasks to the best of their abilities.

Religious Education: This half term we will be focussing on ‘People’ (Our family and the family of God) ‘Called’ (What is it like to be called and chosen?) and ‘Gifts’ (Learning about how we give and receives gifts, as a symbol of love). Year 4, will also spend some time this term learning about the other faith- ‘Judaism’.

RSE: The theme is: ‘Journey in Love’ which focuses on understand why people choose to get married and what it means to them. Look at what a marriage ceremony might involve. We will also continue to work on the **Commando Joe’s** scheme of work where Year 4 will continue to learn about teamwork, patience, communication and resilience.

Mathematics: This term we will be focussing on: Counting in multiples of 3, 6, 4 and 8. Counting backwards and forwards including negative numbers. Finding 1 and 10 more or less than a given number and placing them on a number line and recognise the place value of each digit in a 4digit number (thousands, hundreds, tens and ones). All these skills will be applied into real life context to develop mathematical understanding of the key concepts.

Reading This half term we will be focussing on: Summarising what has been read. Making inferences about characters and settings using words from the author and to be able to explain the meaning of new vocabulary using own knowledge and the use of a dictionary.

Writing: Our books this half term is ‘The Twits by Roald Dahl’ and ‘The Lion the witch and the wardrobe by C.S Lewis’. We will be focussing on: the structure of a debate, to which Year 4 will then go on to write their own debate. We will look at the structure of a newspaper report and play scripts. We will also be developing our descriptive phrases to describe characters and events.

Spelling: This term we will be focusing on Spelling words with additional prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them to root words. We will also be looking at using common homophones as well as beginning to learn to Year 4 common exception words.

Grammar: This term we will be looking at using similes and adverbs with expanded noun phrases. Writing sentences with fronted adverbials for when, where and how and we will begin to use brackets, directions and the main features of a play script.

How you can help at home: Please encourage your children to read for 20 minutes a day in order for them to complete many different book, which will develop a love for reading and a good comprehension of what they have read. Weekly timetable practice is also highly recommended as Year 4 will complete the National Times table tests at the end of the school Year.

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Science: The theme is **Excuse Me Are These Your Teeth** and we will be focussing on: Describing the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans. Identifying the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions and constructing and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey. We will also be looking at '**States of Matter**' and we will be focussing on: Providing a definition of what solids, liquids and gases are and provide examples that are natural and man-made and Investigating how solids, liquids and gases are states of matter and can be changed from one form to another.

Computing: The theme is **THE INTERNET** and we will be focussing on: Computing systems and networks –We will look at what the internet is made of and what a website is. We will also be focusing on '**Amination and effective Searching**' were we will be looking at how animations are created by hand and find out how 2Animate animations can be created in a similar way using technology.

History The theme is **The Ancient Greeks** and we will be focussing on: When and where did the Ancient Greeks civilisation start? How can we find out about the civilisation of Ancient Greece? And can we thank the Ancient Greeks for anything in our lives today?

Geography: The theme is **The Mediterranean** and we will be focussing on: Using a range of maps to start investigating the continent, its principal cities, coastlines, nations, rivers and mountains. What is so special about The Mediterranean? What are some of its human and natural wonders? What connections do we have to it?

Art: The theme is **Positive and Negative Space** and we will be focussing on: Identifying positive and negative space in different works of art including pots made by the Greeks. Developing drawing techniques including using different media such as pencil, charcoal, and graphite and creating pieces using contrasting colours of paper and creating clay pots using thumb, slab and coil techniques. We will also be looking at the theme '**Winter**' from 'The Four Seasons' and we will be focussing on: Listening and reflecting on a piece of orchestral music and creating their own piece of music using instruments and voices and perform and ensemble.

Music: The theme is 'singing **by learning to sing 'Grandma Grandma'** and develop a love of singing through different songs. Year four will also be looking at '**BBC Ten Pieces by Antonio Vivaldi**'.

French: The themes that we will be focussing on are: Classroom instructions, basic French sentences and we will learn about the local area, using key words and phrases.

PSHE: The themes that we will be focusing on are: respect, problem solving and resourcefulness, leadership and the impact of bullying and discrimination.

PE / Sports: The theme is **Dance/Gymnastics** and we will be focussing on: following a sequence steps to music and creating a sequence of moves to a chosen piece of music. We will create a freestyle element to the dance and re-visit different types of balances. Year 4 will also attend Tyldesley swimming and we will be focussing on learning about water safety, including how we climb in and out of the pool and develop stamina and the basic strokes.

How you can help at home (in relation to the above subjects): To help support your child at home please encourage them to complete all home learning activities set and encourage your children to talk about their learning exploring any interests further. This can be done with days out, getting creative, research based learning or sharing one's own knowledge in order to keep the love of learning alive.

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