

YEAR 4 SUMMER 1

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER 2017

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"Happy together in God's family,
we love, grow and learn."

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school after the Easter break. At the end of last term, we said a fond farewell to Mrs Leonard and now warmly welcome Miss Mercer to our class. We are working closely together to ensure a smooth transition for the class.

Swimming lessons have now come to an end and will be replaced with a second P.E. lesson in school. Please can you ensure that your child has a pair of trainers in school on a Monday and Tuesday.

Year 4 will continue to be supported in their learning by Mrs Wilson (Spanish) and Mrs Stafford (PPA cover), who will teach them on Wednesday afternoon.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Many thanks,

Mrs Harrison/ Miss Mercer



Homework

Reading: Year 4 children are expected to read for 20 minutes per night. Books are changed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and will be sent home on these days. Please ensure that your child has written in his/her reading diary and recorded which pages have been read each night or if any other books have been read. If you listen to your child read, please feel free to add your initials and any comment.

Spellings: Children will be given a set of spellings (up to 8 words) each Monday to be brought home and practice. We will be using the spellings in many different ways throughout the week to aid learning. The children will be tested each Friday.

Times Tables: The children have worked so hard on their 7 and 8 times tables and we are very proud of them. Lots have already gained their Bronze and Silver awards in them. We are now working on our 6 and 9 times tables, ensuring that we know them with very rapid recall.

Written Homework: This will be given out on a Friday to be returned on Monday. This task should take about 20 minutes and is completed in a homework book. There will be a balance of Literacy, Maths and topic work throughout the year.



Important Days

Monday:

Hand in homework.

Reading books changed.

PE kit required, including
trainers.

Tuesday

PE kit required, including
trainers.

Wednesday:

Reading books changed.

Friday:

Reading books changed

Spelling test

Times tables test

Homework given.

Important Dates

1/5/17 – May Day Holiday

12/5/17 – Month of Mary
'bring a flower' assembly.

20/5/17 – First Holy
Communion 11am.

21/5/17 – FHC Parish Mass
11am.

26/5/17 – School closes for
Half Term.

English

In this unit, the children explore the Big Question: Did the Shang Dynasty really exist? They read the interactive eBook, retrieving and collating information about China. They answer the Big Question, planning and writing a non-chronological report. The children will then read *The Iron Man*, asking and answering questions and making predictions. They look at the author's use of powerful language to capture our imaginations, including similes. They revise their knowledge of speech marks, composing a conversation, and focus on the character Hogarth's feelings to write diary entries in role. For the final task, they create their own imaginary creature, thinking of similes and powerful noun phrases to describe it, and write a story about what happens when it encounters humans.

PE

Year 4 will have two PE lessons every week. For this term we will be working on our batting, bowling and catching skills, then learning how to play rounders. We will also be doing athletics. We will work on running, throwing, jumping and relays, with a focus on team work and supporting each other.

History

This half term, we will study 'Anglo-Saxons & Vikings.' We will use sources to establish routes taken by the invaders, use observational skills to draw houses and artefacts and research skills to develop an understanding of life in an Anglo Saxon village. We hope to enhance our work with a trip to Jorvik, more details to follow.

RE

Our focus for RE this half term is 'The Early Christians.' In this topic the children will learn that Peter was chosen by Jesus to play a special role in the Church and that Jesus gave his followers a mission – to spread the Good News to others. They will learn that Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to help his followers and that Pentecost was the beginning of the Church. They will learn about the missions of Peter and Paul and about Stephen the first martyr of the Christian faith.

The Year 4 Curriculum



Half-Term 5



Computing

Our focus for ICT is Heroes. In this project, children will blend creative writing and coding to produce their own interactive animations. We will use both online programming and iPad apps such as Scratch and Book Creator to work through a range of objectives.

Music

Our focus this half term is focused around one song: 'Lean On Me,' by Bill Withers. We will be using games to focus on pulse, rhythm and pitch. We will also be singing and playing instruments to accompany the music.

Mathematics

In Maths Year 4 will focus on measure. The children will be taught to convert between different units of measure e.g. kilometre to metre. Children will measure and calculate the perimeter of a rectilinear figure (including squares) in cm and m. Later on children will identify acute and obtuse angles and compare and order angles up to two right angles by size. They will compare and classify geometric shapes, including quadrilaterals and triangles, based on their properties and sizes.

Science

In Science Year 4 will be learning to recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. They will explore and use keys to identify and name a variety of living things. Finally, they look at how changes to habitats can pose dangers to living things.

DT

In DT we will continue to focus on structures, in particular 'bridges' to tie in with our recent Geography work. The children will explore the ways in which bridge designs have changed and developed over time. They will also build models using readily available materials.