

YEAR 4 AUTUMN 1

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER 2019

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school after the summer holidays. It has been lovely for me to see how much the children have progressed since I last taught them in Reception. We have all settled in quickly and are enjoying learning about the 7 habits of "Leader in Me". We have lots to look forward to this term, including going swimming!

This year, Year 4 will be supported in their learning by Mrs Wood. Mrs Middleton will be teaching the class on a Wednesday afternoon. The children will also continue to learn Spanish with Mrs Wilson on Friday.

If you would like to help listen to readers, this year then please get in touch. Also if you have any spare children's books at home which are no longer used, please bring them into class for our class library.

This half-termly newsletter aims to inform you of the Year 4 curriculum for the forthcoming half term and any important routines and dates. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Mrs Beirne



Homework

Reading: Year 4 children are expected to read for 20 minutes per night. Books are changed on Mondays and Thursdays 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. We encourage you to listen to your child read to check their understanding and would welcome your comments. We encourage you to use the electronic books on Active Learn each week.

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: We will shortly be starting Times Tables Rock Stars' in Year 4. The children will practise their times tables three times a week for 3 minutes at a time. When they have reached 58-60 marks twice in a row they will move onto the next level. The children are very excited and are doing well – to help them, see how quickly they can recall their 3 times tables in a random order.

Important Days

Monday:

Swimming kit required.

Hand in homework.

Reading books changed.

Thursday:

PE kit required, including trainers.

Friday:

Spelling test

Reading books changed

Homework given.

Important Dates

- Friday 20th September
11.00am Y4 and Y6 class
Mass
- Wednesday 25th
September School
Photographs
- Wednesday 25th
September 9.30am Y4
attend Mass
- Friday 4th October 2.15pm
Harvest Festival
- Friday 18th October
Rosary Day
- Monday 21st October 5.00
– 7.30pm Parents'
Evening*
- Wednesday 23rd October
4.00 – 6.30pm Parents'
Evening
- Thursday 24th October
School finishes for half
term

English

The children will be reading an award-winning picture book. Currently the name and theme of the book are secret, so that the children can develop their prediction skills whilst reading. We will look at the author's use of language: her choice of memorable words and phrases to stimulate our own creative writing. Whilst reading the story the children will be responding to questions that stretch their comprehension and questioning skills. In addition, they will have whole class reading and comprehension lessons and focus on consolidating our SPAG knowledge and using fronted adverbials. We will continue to work on spelling patterns each week.

PE

Year 4 will spend one of their P.E sessions a week at Holt Park Active, partaking in swimming lessons. The second P.E session of the week will be spent focusing on gymnastics including balances and transitions between movements. We will also start developing our skipping skills.

Geography

In this unit children will learn about the importance of taking care of the environment. It will include issues around litter and waste e.g. damage to the environment; reducing the level of resource use; and reuse, as well as recycling, of

RE

Our focus for RE this half term is "The Bible". We will learn that the Bible is one story told through many different books. The children will know that the Bible is an account of God's relationship with His people. They will also explore the stories of Abraham, Joseph, Moses and David. We will also explore how the Bible helps us to pray and experience how God speaks to us in the Bible.

The Year 4 Curriculum



Half-Term 1



Personal Development

In PSED our theme for this term is "Identity, society and equality: Democracy". In addition our circle times will focus on the virtues of caring, helpfulness, co-operation, courage, national kindness week and reflection. Our theme in Mindmate is "Feeling Good and Being Me". We will continue to explore how using the 7 Habits can help us create a Leadership Classroom.

Music

Our focus this half term will involve learning and performing the Abba hit, 'Mamma Mia'.

Mathematics

This half term we will be looking at Roman Numerals, place value: mastering how to identify, order and represent 4-digit numbers; using our understanding to solve number and practical problems. There will be opportunities for the children to apply this to reasoning problems regularly.

Each day, we will be working on times tables to be able to mentally multiply facts up to 12 x 12.

Science

In science, Year 4 will be learning about "States of Matter". We will learn about solids, liquids and gases and research melting points. We will link our work to "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and explore melting points. We will cover the water cycle and investigate evaporation rates.

Art

Our topic is "We can change places" which looks at sculpture and how it can make a positive impact on our surroundings. Children will design and create their own sculpture.

Computing

This half term the unit focuses on "Online Safety".