

YEAR 4 SUMMER 1

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER 2018

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's hard to believe that we are starting the last term for Year 4. This year has sped by and the children have really matured during their time in Year 4 so far. We have lots of fun and exciting things planned for the summer term including our trip to the Thackray Medical Museum and the skipping competition.

This half term, we say goodbye to Miss Buxton-Cook who is going to work in Year 3 and we welcome Miss Trevelyan, who is joining our staff and will be the teaching assistant in Year 4 working Tuesdays to Fridays. We look forward to welcoming her into our class and would like to thank Miss Buxton-Cook for all the hard work she has done with the children this year. This half term, Year 4 will continue to be supported in their learning by Mrs Dawson who teaches the class on a Friday morning. The children will also continue to learn Spanish with Mrs Wilson on a Wednesday afternoon.

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.

Miss Dixon



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: We are continuing with our Times Tables Rock Stars' which has been a big hit with the children. 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 9 and 11 times tables in a random order. The children can also access their account on the TTRS website.

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.

PE kit required, **including trainers.**

Tuesday

Reading books changed.

Wednesday:

Reading books changed.

Friday:

Reading books changed

Spelling test

Homework given.

Important Dates

20/04/18 – Dinosaur workshop.

25/04/18 – Year 4 trip to Thackray Medical Museum.

26/04/18 – Open classrooms for Dinosaur Week, open to parents 3:15 – 3.45.

03/05/18 – Year 4 class assembly, 9:15am.

04/05/18 – Year 2 and 4 class mass, 11am in the hall.

07/05/18 – May Day Bank Holiday, school closed.

10/5/18 – Ascension Mass.

21/05/18 – Year 4 trip to Leeds Town Hall for the Inaugural Piano Fantasia Performance.

25/05/18 – Break up for half term. Bring a flower for Our Lady.

English

This half term we will be exploring the question: Did the Shang Dynasty really exist? We will read an interactive eBook, retrieve and collate information about China. The children will then explore historical evidence and timelines before planning and writing a non-chronological report. Following this, the children will look at the book, 'The Spiderwick Chronicles' as they explore fantasy fiction. They will develop their understanding of inference and use drama to explore characters and suspense. We will continue to focus on our spelling patterns which will include the common exception words for Year 4, and specific grammar rules in our SPaG session on a Friday.

PE

Year 4 have concluded their swimming sessions for the year and should be proud of their hard work. We will continue to focus now on our skipping skills in the run up to the skipping festival.

History

This half term, the children will start our new topic, 'The Romans'. We will study the spread of the Roman Empire, the invasion and conquest of Britain and the impact it had on life in Britain. We will also look in detail at some aspects of the Romanisation of Britain, such as the building of Roman roads and bath houses.

RE

Our focus for RE this half term is 'The Early Christians.'

In this topic the children will consider why Jesus made Peter the head of the Church and what this means for all Christians. The children will also look at the importance of Pentecost and reflect on what happened to Stephen and Saul. They will consider the challenges of being an apostle and how Paul's faith and courage helped him to spread the Christian message.

The Year 4 Curriculum

Half-Term 5



Mathematics

This half term we will be continuing to focus on fractions and decimals including: recognising equivalent fractions, finding fractions of amounts, recognising and writing the decimal equivalent to some fractions and comparing and rounding decimals.

We will also be learning to estimate, compare and calculate different measures, including money in pounds and pence. We will be learning to read, write and convert time between analogue and digital 12 and 24-hour

Science

In science, Year 4 will be learning about 'Animals including Humans'. This will include looking at the digestive system of humans, identifying the functions of different teeth and examining different food chains involving producers, predators and prey. This topic will be supported by our trip to Thackray Medical Museum.

Art

In art our unit is 'Complete Warhol and the Pop Art Movement'. We will explore Warhol's blotted line technique to create artwork before recreating Warhol's 'Campbell's Soup'. Finally we will learn how to create a self-portrait in the style of Andy Warhol.

Computing

This half term the children will be completing a unit called, 'Effective Searching'. The children will learn to locate information on the search results page; to use search effectively to find out information and to assess whether an information source is true and reliable.

Music

This half term we are focusing on the song, 'Lean on Me' by Bill Withers.