



13 September 2019

Dear Parents

Year 4 Newsletter – Autumn 2019

Welcome back to another busy and exciting school year. It is wonderful to see how well the children are settling into their new Year 4 classrooms at the Junior School. The autumn term is always extremely busy and we have many exciting events planned. This year, Year 4 will be taking part in the Junior School Harvest Festival and then they will be joining forces with Years 5 & 6 for their Christmas production. I also thought that you would like to know what your child will be studying over the next term so that you can help to support their studies.

English

This term, pupils will use a non-fiction text 'Space Explorers' to develop their comprehension skills. When writing, they will focus on the effective use of pronouns and fronted adverbials, and use these in their writing tasks to create a diary entry and biography. They will also learn and revise simile, metaphor and personification through their poetry unit 'Creating Images'. They will continue to learn weekly spellings to reinforce key word lists and spelling rules.

Maths

Over the course of this term, pupils will consolidate their understanding of place value with up to 5 digit numbers and they will practise formal methods of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division with up to 3 or 4 digit numbers. They will begin to understand decimal notation and the place value of decimal numbers. They will also develop their knowledge of fractions and they will aim to tell and write the time to the nearest minute on analogue and digital clocks, as well as solve time problems.

Science

Pupils will compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases. They will observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled and they will measure the temperature at which this happens in degrees. This will be followed by a study of sound, identifying how sounds are made and associating some of them with something vibrating.

Art

This term, pupils will be examining four different examples of art and techniques: pointillism, pop art, fauvism and impressionism. Pupils will be using these techniques to produce portraits, including self-portraits, and they will use Tudor portraits as a stimulus for their work.

French

Pupils will revise simple greetings, introductions, instructions and numbers up to 20. They will learn about special occasions and celebrations and talk about what they do well. They will also learn how to ask questions, use possessive adjectives, express preference and praise, ask permission and use the je form of regular -er verbs.

Physical Education – Boys

The major team game this term will be rugby, with an emphasis on developing basic skills and increasing the understanding of match play. In swimming, pupils will work on techniques and their individual performances will be recorded and monitored. During PE lessons, pupils will be involved in smaller units of work involving indoor hockey and health related fitness.

Physical Education – Girls

In the major team games, such as netball and hockey, the emphasis will be on developing basic skills and increasing the understanding of match play. In swimming, pupils will work on techniques and their individual performances will be recorded and monitored. During PE lessons, pupils will be involved in smaller units of work involving indoor hockey and health related fitness.

Geography

Pupils will study the weather during the second half of the term. They will find out about the different climatic zones around the world and how and why different types of weather occur.

History

During the first half term, pupils will be finding out about Henry VIII and his six wives. Pupils will investigate why Henry VIII needed to marry six times and what happened with each of his marriages. Related to this topic, they will take part in a practical workshop led by Tanya Bentham from Threads of Time and they will visit Barley Hall in York.

ICT

We will begin this term by reminding pupils of the importance of e-safety so that pupils are aware of the need to develop a set of online protocols to stay safe on line. The pupils will then use the Internet to support work across the curriculum and present their learning in different ways, e.g. using PowerPoint.

Music

Pupils will develop their knowledge of pitch and rhythm, using keyboards to play short melodies with or without accompaniments. They will sing songs in unison and some that can be combined with each other. Pupils will listen to families of orchestral instruments used in Handel's 'Fireworks Music'. They will also learn to compose using a limited range of pitch and rhythmic values. Some lesson time will be given to learning music for the Christmas services.

RS

This term the children will be studying Buddhism, looking at the history, key beliefs, festivals and holy places of the religion. After half term, they will move onto studying people of faith, looking at famous people and how their personal faith has influenced their own life choices as well as wider influences.

PSHE

This term, pupils will be discussing their feelings and opinions focusing on the topics of: Rules and Laws; Saving Energy and Climate Change; and Money Matters. Pupils will also learn how to cope with change, to be organised at school and develop their understanding of mindfulness.

I do hope you find this information useful so that you can support your child in their learning. If you have any questions or queries, please get in touch:
claire.thompson@redhouseschool.co.uk.

Yours sincerely



Miss C Thompson
Head of Prep