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SCHOOL

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8 January 2021

Dear Parents

### **Year 4 Subject Summaries: Spring 2021**

Whilst it has certainly been a very different start to the new school term, I have been delighted with how well the pupils (and parents!) have adapted, once again, to the home school learning platform. I know daily work is being uploaded for the pupils but I thought you would like to know the overview of topics that your child will be studying this term.

#### **English**

The children will read an interactive eBook 'Did the Shang Dynasty really exist?' retrieving and collating information about China. During this unit, they will explore historical evidence and timelines, answer questions and consider what information is true and relevant. Their focus for writing this half term will be non-chronological reports. Their class novel after half term is 'The Iron Man'. They will continue to develop their comprehension skills by asking and answering questions and making predictions. They will also look at the author's use of powerful language, including similes, and incorporate this within their own writing. Their grammar sessions will focus on apostrophes to show possession, nouns and pronouns, singular and plural agreement, noun phrases and punctuating direct speech.

#### **Maths**

Pupils will continue to consolidate their understanding of number and place value, including rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000, as well as decimal numbers. Mental addition and subtraction methods will be on-going, as will formal written methods. They will recall multiplication table facts up to 12 x 12 and learn strategies to multiply and divide a 3-digit number. Division answers will include those with remainders. They will find equivalent fractions and order and compare decimal numbers. Moving on to solving real life problems involving fractions and decimal numbers. Pupils will sort 2D shapes according to their properties, recognise and draw angles, identify parallel and perpendicular lines, and investigate lines of symmetry. They will also solve money problems to two decimal places, using mental arithmetic and written methods to calculate change.

#### **Science**

In Science, the children will cover the topic Grouping Living Things and explore the impact of environmental changes to living things. They will recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things. Using a range of localities, the children will construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey. They will use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment with a particular focus on plants and animals in a rain forest habitat.

#### **Art**

Our Art work will be linked to China and The Shang Dynasty. We will create Chinese pictures, scrolls and artefacts.

**French**

This term, the pupils will be introduced to simple grammatical structures and key language through a variety of topics, such as clothes, colours and animals. Interactive activities will be used to support their learning and reinforce their understanding. The pupils will also explore intercultural celebrations, such as birthdays, Valentine's Day and Easter.

**Physical Education**

Pupils will have the opportunity to engage in a variety of physical activities during the remote learning period. They will have a menu style programme for them to choose a range of indoor and outdoor activities. This will help them maintain their fitness levels, as well as participating in sports specific skills to improve their coordination and agility. This will be great preparation

for a return to school where pupils will have the chance to showcase their skills in games such as hockey, rugby (boys) and netball (girls).

**Geography/History**

This half term, the pupils will study The Shang Dynasty of Ancient China, where they will discover key information about the formation of the Shang Dynasty and the kings who ruled it. They will learn about everyday life, the process of worship, the importance of warfare, advances in technology and the development of writing. In the second half of Spring term, the children will explore contrasting localities. Identifying human and physical features and identifying changes to the landscape as a result of extreme weather conditions.

**Computing**

Pupils will revisit e-safety this term, linking this to Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February. They will also use ICT for data handling, as well as supporting other areas of the Year 4 curriculum.

**Music**

Pupils will further develop their knowledge of musical notation and note values. Through listening topics and activities, they will learn about higher pitched instruments from each orchestral family. Pieces of music will be used to encourage an imaginative response through short stories, poems or art.

**RS**

Children will learn about what a pilgrimage is for both secular and religious people. They will then focus on the six main world religions and identify the role of pilgrimage in that religion. This will include finding out about specific pilgrimages, such as the Hajj, when and where the pilgrimages take place, and what takes place during the pilgrimage.

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](mailto:claire.thompson@redhouseschool.co.uk)

Yours sincerely

**Miss C Thompson**  
**Assistant Head of Junior School**