

Class 4 Newsletter



Autumn 2015

Welcome back!

We hope that you all had a lovely summer break.

Staffing in Class 4 this year - Mrs Corrigan will be teaching on Mondays/Tuesdays/Wednesdays and Mrs Hodgkinson will be teaching on Thursdays/Fridays. Mr Sharman will be the full time TA and we will continue to be supported in class by Mrs Garland and Mrs Johnstone.

Our **English** work for the first term will be based on 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' by Phillip Pullman. We will be looking in detail at the story and the characters, and then we will go on to writing our own similar stories. Nearer to half term, we will be looking at Instruction texts. We will continue to work on our grammar and handwriting.

As you will be aware, we no longer formally test weekly **spellings**. However, we continue to have key words and spelling patterns that we will be learning in school each week. A copy of these spellings will be sent home. Please support your child to learn these words.

Our **Maths** this term will focus on mental strategies for adding and subtracting, the number system and place value. We will begin to cover decimal numbers and extend our understanding of fractions. We will also be learning more about measurement in terms of time, weight and volume.

Our **Science** topic this term is Animals including humans which focuses on the human digestive system, the different types of teeth and their functions, and food chains, identifying, producers, predators, and prey. After half term we will be learning about electricity.

In our **Computing** lesson we will be using Scratch to develop skills in computer programming. Later in the term we will be learning how to open and send emails. We will also be thinking about E-safety, ensuring that we all know how to stay safe when using the Internet and other technology.

Our main topic is our **History** work on Ancient Egypt. During the first term we will be looking at what we can find out from objects left behind and what daily life was like in Ancient Egypt. We will also be looking at the role of the River Nile and how it links to food & the farming seasons. During the second term we will be going on to look at Pharaohs and the process of mummification. This is a very interesting and enjoyable unit. We will be visiting the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford in November. More details will be given nearer the time.

In our **RE** we will be focusing on Hinduism, exploring how Hindus express their beliefs through images of deities and symbols. After half term we will look at Christianity.

In **Art** we will be focusing on textiles. We will be drawing on fabric to create Egyptian wrist cuffs and we will sew hieroglyphics onto binca. We will also have a go at making clay canopic jars.

Our **Design and Technology** topic after half term is Pop-Up books; we will be looking at different mechanisms and making our own books.

In **Music** we will be completing a unit of work based around the song Mamma Mia. We will be looking at singing, appraising, improvising and composing. We will also be learning to play the recorder.

Our **PE** lessons will take place on a Wednesday and Friday this term. The Wednesday session will be basketball, taught by a coach from Reading Rockets. In the other lesson, we will be developing our hockey skills.

Please help your child to ensure that they have their PE kit in school every day.

Ms. Dark will teach our weekly **French** lesson, this will take place on a Tuesday.

Homework will be given out every Friday and it will be due in by the following Tuesday. The title of the homework task will be on the Class 4 weekly blog, however the actual homework will be sent out in a folder. It is most likely that homework tasks will alternative between Maths/ Science and English/ History.

If you have any queries or concerns, please make an appointment to see us.

Mrs. Corrigan and Mrs. Hodgkinson