**Year 4 Autumn Term Newsletter**

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone to Year 4 – it will be a busy and important year for the children, with lots of exciting learning and activities planned! The children are settling quickly into the hustle and bustle of school life, and it’s a pleasure to start getting to know them better.



English

Reading and vocabulary are at the centre of all children’s learning, and we will continue to keep this at the heart of our whole curriculum, sharing and exploring a wide range of texts. Much of our reading and writing this term will be based around our theme of ‘Invaders’, learning about the invasions of the Romans and the Vikings and how Britain changed as a result. As part of this, we will be writing newspaper reports, persuasive speeches, a biography and a short story. I am already so impressed with the children’s ideas, and I look forward to reading and sharing their work with you.

Maths

Our focus this term will be on place value of numbers up to 10,000 introducing decimals and negative numbers, and the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). It is vital for the children in Year 4 to be confident in number, especially in knowing their times tables up to 12 x 12 – please encourage your child to be practising these regularly at home. These are key to so many areas of more complex Maths, especially as we work more on formal written methods and fractions.

Foundation Subjects

Here is a brief overview of our intended learning across all curriculum subjects this term – we know all children have different interests and talents, and there’s something here for everybody!

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Art | Painting: colour and brushstrokes  The life and work of Vincent Van Gogh |
| Computing | Programming and animations |
| Design Technology | Textiles: designing and sewing their own pencil case |
| French | Asking and answering questions about themselves  Following simple commands  Numbers, colours, days of the week, months of the year |
| Geography | The water cycle |
| Music | What does music teach us about our community?  Exploring different musical genres from the blues to EDM |
| PE | Dance  Fitness  Dodgeball |
| PSHE | Positive relationships  Sticky Questions – exploring questions through debate and using verbal reasoning (there are no right or wrong answers!) |
| RE | Judaism – what do Jewish people believe about God? |
| Science | Animals including humans (focusing on food, nutrition and digestion)  States of Matter |

PE

Our PE lessons will usually take place on Mondays and Fridays; please send PE kits in to school with your child on a Monday, and these will be sent home on Fridays. PE kit should consist of: tracksuit bottoms, trainers and a change of top (preferably a school t-shirt in house colours), as well as a sweatshirt for the outdoors.

Uniform

Children should all come to school wearing: black or grey trousers/shorts/skirt/pinafore; a white polo shirt; a blue cardigan/sweatshirt; and plain black shoes. It has been great to see the children return to school looking so smart, but if there are any difficulties with providing uniform, please do let us know as we can support with this.

Home Learning

Homework will be set through a combination of online platforms and your child’s Home Learning book. This may take different forms, but will always be set on a Monday to be completed by Friday.

\*Times tables: children have all been given an individual login for Times Tables Rockstars. Please encourage your child to use this regularly, as well as completing focused Maths tasks when set.

\*Reading: we expect reading records to be completed at least three times weekly. Please take the time to read with your child as often as possible, and focus on their understanding on the text by asking questions (see the middle pages inside their reading record for some useful hints and tips). By Year 4, we expect that most children can confidently read aloud, and decipher new vocabulary, so the key to progress is their comprehension (understanding). To encourage greater independence in Year 4, children are encouraged to review their own reading too by rating themselves out of 10 in their reading record!

\*Other homework tasks and projects may be set over the term linked to our current areas of learning.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to come and speak to us, or make an appointment.

Miss Bell, Mrs Bott & Miss Navin