

Year 4 - Spring Curriculum Letter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to a new, exciting and busy term. I hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas holiday and are ready to take on the new challenges of the new year.



This term our Geography topic will be '**Map skills**' We will learn about how to use a map, compass and coordinates. We will continue to investigate the human and physical geography of the UK and Europe.

In **science** we will be learning about Materials, especially what happens at a molecular level when they change states (solids, liquids and gases).

In **English** we will start off with adventure stories, looking at how authors use dialogue to move a story forward. We will then move on to writing about persuasion and looking at advertisement. There will also be a strong focus on spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Read **20 minutes** a day and you'll read **1,800,000 words** per year.

The children enjoy **Guided reading** we will be reading Butterfly Lion by Michael Morpurgo. We will also continue to focus on written comprehension. Parents can help the development of comprehension skills enormously by discussing what children have read with them on a regular basis and all children should be reading at home at least 3 times a week which is recorded in the children's reading diaries. Reading diaries are

checked on Fridays and children who have not read the minimum amount will be asked to stay in during a play time or lunch time to complete this element of their homework.

Reading is an important skill and children will continue to have a reading book from the school which matches their Accelerated Reader level. Your support in listening to your child read and the comments you make in their reading record book are very much appreciated. Children have been provided with a bookmark with question prompts you can use to support your child's reading.

Think of a number. Double it. Add six. Half it. Take away the number you started with. Your answer is three.

We will continue to work on our **Maths** throughout the term, building on what we have already learnt, such as, the four rules:

addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division; decimals and conversion of measures. A good knowledge of **times tables** is essential for a child to



make good progress in maths. We will continue to use TT Rockstars to prepare for the MTC in the summer term. Please try these at home!

The children should also be completing TTRockstar assignments every week as part of their homework.



Our PE days will be **Monday** and **Wednesday** this term and the children will be looking at games and skills involving targets. Please make sure that PE kits are in school on these days.

Some children from Year 4 may be selected to participate in swimming on Monday afternoons. More details about this will be sent out shortly. Children need to bring black shorts, a house colour short sleeved top and plimsolls. Please ensure that your child brings jogging bottoms, a warm top, and trainers for outside lessons during the colder months. Please label all items of clothing so that we can return any misplaced items. Please refer to our uniform policy on our school website for more information.

In the **MyHappyMind** programme the children will be completing the appreciate module. They will be learning how to develop an attitude of gratitude, how to be grateful for others, experiences and ourselves and how giving and receiving gratitude makes us feel. Log on to the parent app for more information about this module.

During the Spring term children will be learning the Ukelele in **music**.

In **RE** the children will be continuing to explore Buddhism and Christianity. In **ICT/Computing** we will be exploring what the internet is and how information gets around the internet to us!

Art this term will be digital art, looking at repeating patterns with geometric shapes in the style of Sarah Morris. In **DT** in the second half term, we will be cooking eggs in our food technology unit.

It is important that children look after the yellow Home-School books and keep their covers clean and tidy. Home communication books are for recording reading, and some children like to put their stickers and certificates in them. Please ensure they are checked by adults regularly, and that you are only recording reading which is happening at home/out of school times. While students may want to record their reading done in school time, this does not count towards their home reading homework.



If you have any questions, feel free to speak to me after school or call in at the office to make an appointment if you need a little more time for discussion.

We are looking forward to a fun and fantastic Spring Term!

Miss Richter and the Year 4 team.

