

Year 4 Newsletter – Autumn 1

Welcome to year 4! We are sending out our Autumn term 1 newsletter early during our transition day so you have information about your child's new class ahead of the summer break. A copy of the newsletter will be sent out as normal via Arbor after the summer holidays. We hope you have a lovely summer break and look forward to welcoming you back in September.

Welcome

Welcome to Year 4! I hope your children had a restful summer holiday and are excited to return. Mrs Howe, Mrs Pritchard and I are thrilled to be working with your children and look forward to encouraging them to be the best version of themselves. We have high expectations for the children this year and will motivate them to achieve their best.

I have put together some information that I thought would be useful for you to enable you to support your child's education this term.

Spelling and Reading

This year we will have our test spelling on a Thursday and new spellings will be sent home on the same day. In reading we be focusing on fluency and reading for meaning.

Our class texts this term will be The Firework-Maker's Daughter- Phillip Pullman and Rumaysa – a Fairy Tale



Writing

We will be writing a fiction piece based on the short film Dream Giver. We will also be writing a non chronological report on about the "Rock Cycle" as well as an essay based on our geography topic. We will be describing how Corby has changed over time.

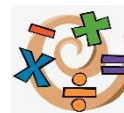


Maths

In maths we will start the year looking at place value: reading and writing numbers to 10000, comparing and ordering numbers

We will then move on to the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

We will work on adding and subtracting, 10's & 100's and 1000s adding and subtracting two 4 digit numbers.



Science

Our science topic this term is "The Human Body". We will be learning about how cells are the building blocks of the human body and we need nutrition to keep our bodies working as they should, the teeth and senses, digestion and the process of digestion and vitamins and minerals and understanding a healthy diet.



Computing

In computing this term our topics will be unpacking hardware and software and animation.

We will be learning to identify and describe different pieces of computer hardware and understand their functions and to understand what software is and how we use it to complete tasks. We will also be learning to understand what animation is and to understand the term onion skinning and be able to use this technique for 2D computer animations.



Art & Design/Design & Technology

In art we will be studying "light" in art. We will look at drawing dark and light, painting dark and light, we will be painting a still life with acrylic using ground and underpainting as techniques and then using tints and shade to show form. This will help children understand how artists use and show light in different ways.

In Design Technology we will be looking at different sewing techniques and designing then making cushions.



Geography/History

Our history topic this term is "Ancient Greece". We will be learning about all the city states in Ancient Greece, understanding Athens and the importance of democracy, Sparta and their thirst for War, The Persian Wars, Alexander the Great and Greek Philosophy. (This is a 12-week unit and will continue into next half term)



Our Geography topic this term is 'Spatial Sense'. We will be focusing on recognising geographical tools on a globe, looking at scale for distance, recapping grid references, recognise key features of Corby and understand how Corby has changed over time.

Music

In music this term the children will be listening to different work songs – sea shanties and bhangra songs (from Punjab, India). The children will then create a work song using percussion instruments to keep a steady beat.



PE

PE days are Wednesday and Thursday so please remember to send your child to school dressed in PE kit on those days. Both lessons will be outdoors.

Children may stay in PE kit all day. Long hair to be tied up and **no jewellery please**. Thank you.

Topics taught this term:

- Outdoor Adventure
- Tag Rugby



PSHE

Teaching Unit: Being Me in My World



Your child will learn about who they are and how they fit in at our school and the wider world. These will be covered in these separate lessons:

- Becoming a Class "Team"
- Being a School Citizen
- Rights, Responsibilities and Democracy
- Rewards and Consequences
- Our Learning Charter
- Owning Our Learning Charter

RE

In RE we will be learning about Buddhism and answering the question "Is it possible for everyone to be happy?"



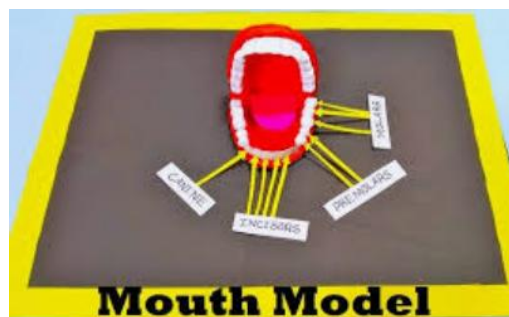
Reminders

As a reminder, our school uniform for key stage 2 is a white shirt with a purple cardigan/ jumper with black trousers/skirt and black shoes.

Children are expected to read at home daily. Reading records should be brought into school each Monday for Dojo points to be awarded. Being fluent in times tables is very important as the children progress through the school. Children are expected to log on to Timestable Rockstars weekly to practise their times tables. Dojo points will also be given for this.

Homework Project

Related to our science topic children could create a model of a mouth and label the different types of teeth and their functions or create a model or diagram of our digestive system. Or for history they could make a model of an ancient Greek building, research and draw pictures of Greek gods and explain their powers, make a Spartan helmet or design a shield.



Skills Builder

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities



Times Tables Rockstars



Spelling Shed



Rewards

The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be 'spent' on prizes periodically.



Class information

Class Teacher: Mrs Morgan

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Howe, Mrs Pritchard

Please remember to **name your child's school jumper or cardigan.**

We request that all children bring a named water bottle to school every day.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.



Dates for the diary!

Autumn 1

Tuesday 1st September
Wednesday 2nd September
Thursday 3rd September
Thursday 3rd to Friday 4th September
Monday 7th September
Tuesday 15th September
Wednesday 9th to Friday 11th September
Tuesday 6th October
Wednesday 14th October
Thursday 15th October
Friday 23rd October

Teacher training day 1, school closed for pupils
 Teacher training day 2, school closed for pupils
 School reopens for pupils
 Reception home visits
 Reception settling in session
 Parent welcome meetings – 2:30pm
 Y6 residential trip to PGL Caythorpe
 Individual and sibling photos
 Parents Consultation Evening 3pm – 6.30pm
 Parents Consultation Evening 3pm – 5.30pm
 School closes to pupils for Half Term