

# Class 4 Newsletter



**Autumn 2017**

Welcome back!

I hope that you all had a lovely summer break and are ready for another busy school year!

Our **English** work for the first term will be based on 'The Promise' by Nicola Davies. We will initially be focusing on key word spellings and basic sentence construction through descriptive writing. Our work will then include diary writing and non-fiction genres. Later in the term we will read '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 the end of term, we will be looking at poetry and persuasive writing.

Throughout both terms we will be developing grammar knowledge through sentence diagramming and in our written work. It is crucial this year that we work on key word spellings. A list of these words has been sent home and it is also available on the website along with the Year 3/ 4 statutory words, please support your child at home to learn these spellings.

Our **Maths** this term we will be concentrating on place value developing an in-depth understanding of 4 digit numbers. We will also be using formal written methods to add and subtract numbers with 3 and 4 digits. Alongside this, we will be working on our multiplication tables and division facts. Later in the term we will look at measures including length, perimeter & area and reading scales.

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 on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October. More information will be sent out 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.

Our **PE** lessons will take place on a Tuesday and Thursday this term. The Tuesday session will be taught by a coach from Ignite sports. 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 and ensure they have shin pads for our hockey lessons.

Ms. Dark will teach our weekly **French** lesson, this will take place on a Tuesday. **PSHCE/Debating** will be taught by Mr Sharman, this will also take place on a Tuesday.

Information about **homework** will be sent out shortly.

**Reading** - Children are expected to regularly read to an adult at home. An adult must sign the child's reading record each time they read. Reading records will be checked weekly (usually on a Monday), it is the responsibility of the children to ensure that they have their reading record in school ready to be checked.

Staffing in Class 4 this year - in addition to myself, Mrs Hodgkinson will teach the class on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. We have 2 full time TA's in Class 4 - Mrs Roberts and Mrs Taylor.

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

Mrs. Corrigan