



Year 4 Newsletter Autumn 2



Assistant Headteacher - Mr. Manalo
Teachers - Ms. Choudhury (4C) Mrs. Hantar (4H)
Set Teacher - Gareth
Support staff - Mary, Sean, Shapla

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the half term break. The Year 4 Team are looking forward to all the exciting work your child will be doing this half term.

Notes and reminders

School times / attendance

School starts at **9:00am** and ends at **3:30pm**. Please make sure that your child arrives to school on time each day and that you collect your child on time.

PE

4H - Monday and Wednesday 4C—Wednesday Fitness—Fridays
Please ensure they have their PE kit.

Behaviour reward:

If your child receives a Good News Slip this half term their name will go into a reward box and at the end of the term 24 lucky children will be selected from KS1 and also KS2. The prize will be a KS1 Winter Wonderland party or a KS2 Ice skating at Somerset House provided by our Business Partners Rothschild Bank.

Super Swimmers 4C will be continuing to swim every Monday. Please remember, jewellery is not allowed to be worn in the pool so therefore, please ensure the children don't wear any on Mondays. i.e. earrings.

School library books Your child will have the opportunity to use the class and school library. There are lots of books linked to their topic— **Solids, Liquids and Gases and the Digestive System**. Please encourage your child to take care of the books and to return them in their school bags. Unfortunately any books that are damaged or lost will need to be replaced by parents/carers.

Trips If you would like to come along as a parent volunteer and have attended the workshop, please see Forida and Shelly.

Key Dates

Children in Need Fancy dress and assembly— **Friday 17th November**.

4H— Soanes Centre Monday 20th November

4C— Soanes Centre Wednesday 22nd November

Parent Meeting— **Wednesday 13th December**.

Christmas Lunch— **Friday 15th December**

Christmas Parties— **Monday 18th December**

D&T Day—**Thursday 15th December**



This is what we will be learning:

English:

Dilemma Stories - children will explore stories which raise issues/ dilemmas within a school setting, most of which are told in the first person. The stories explore issues related to bullying, friendship and low self esteem. The class text, year 4 will be focusing on, is, '**Secret Friend**' by **Peter Johnson**. The children will write their own chapter story in the first person, which sets out a school dilemma and how they, as the main character, responded to this. Some other texts they will be looking at; **The Jacket** by **Andrew Clements**, **The Worst Gymnast** by **Thalia Kalkipsakis**.

Explanation Texts— This unit introduces children to explanation texts in the context of science work on change of state and digestion. The children will understand that explanatory texts go beyond simple 'description' in that they include information about causes or reasons. Year 4 will learn all about the digestive system, linked with their topic work and then write a detailed explanation. Some texts they will be looking at: **Solids, Liquids & Gases (Heinemann)**, **Why Do We Eat? , Your Digestive System**.

Maths:

This half term, year 4 will be developing their written calculations by adding , subtracting, multiplying and dividing using a formal written method. They will also have opportunities to apply the skill. They will continue to develop their mental math strategies to work out answers quickly and efficiently. Year 4 will also be looking at fractions, identifying equivalent and working out fractions of quantities. Year 4 will be estimating, measuring and recording weight– using the food lab to support this area. They will move onto analysing and interpreting data in tally charts, pictograms and bar charts. The children will solve comparison, sum and difference problems using information presented in bar charts, pictograms, tables and other graphs. They will end the term looking at analogue and digital time.

Key mental maths objectives this half term:

- Count in multiples of 6, 7, 9, 25 and 1000
- Recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 x 12
- Mentally perform multiplication and division calculations quickly and accurately, including multiplying by 0 and dividing by 1
- Count up and down in hundredths

Topic: Changes of State and the Digestive System

Year 4 will begin the topic, looking at what makes a healthy diet. They will move onto looking at solids and liquids, identifying the properties and carrying out investigations to find out more. When looking at changes of state, the children will have the opportunity to look at what happens to different items when melted, such as chocolate, metals and carry out an investigation using thermometers. They will finally move onto looking, in detail, at teeth and the digestive system.

Try these websites for games and activities at home:

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/> (Math and English)
www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/find (research)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone/clips/the-digestive-system/4180.html>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/Hinduism>
<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Flash.aspx?f=SpeedChallenge> (mental maths)

Research Project -The children are going to be dieticians/nutritionists and share ways to eat healthy and stay active by producing a booklet.

Key Learning

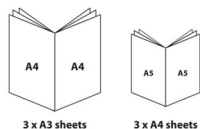
Developing knowledge of food groups and what helps the digestive system.
Knowing the effects of a healthy and unhealthy life style.
Practising report/explanation writing from last year- applying diagrams/pictures to support.
Map skills of the local area.
Using research skills/note taking to collect relevant, key information.

Success Criteria

- Carry out research on different food groups and a healthy eating plan.
- Research 'did you know...' facts about healthy life styles- e.g. stronger immune system.
- Identify activities people can do outside.
- Create a map of the local area, identifying areas for fitness.
- Think of inspirational quotes to encourage the reader.
- Decide how to present the information to make it appealing, including use of photographs, content page
- Create your booklet, remembering to make it eye catching and easy for the reader to understand.

Ways to help

- Help your child to collect information and carry out research online or at the ideas store
- Question them on what foods would be part of the healthy eating plan and why. How would they encourage people to get active?
- Help them to select relevant, key information- does it make someone want to be healthy? Does the booklet look appealing? Is it clear to the reader?
- Help them to manage their time. We suggest spending 2 weeks researching and then designing their map, 2 weeks drafting their booklet and also collecting pictures and creating diagrams, 1 week creating the final design.



Computing:

In computing the children will be learning to create and modify a webpage for different purposes. They will use hyper links, media and text to enhance the structure of the webpage, for FROG. At the end of the unit, year 4 will have created a FROG page about healthy eating and balanced diets.

PSHE: Feelings

All the children will be learning about different feelings and emotions such as; worried, scared, embarrassed, moody, hopeful, happy and sad.

RE: Jesus as an inspiration: This unit enables pupils to learn in depth from Christianity, exploring different reasons why Jesus is considered and inspiring figure by Christians and by many other people too.

P.E : Basketball

Year 4 will be developing their skills to pass, throw and shoot a ball accurately in basketball. They will also look at how they can improve to attack and defend in a basketball game.

DT: Cooking

This half term, year 4 will have the opportunity to create a healthy flapjack, linked to their topic. They will identify foods that can change state and then use these when planning a well balanced healthy snack. At the end they will have the chance to evaluate their work and suggest improvements.

Homework

In year 4 homework will be given to the children every **Thursday** and should be returned on **Wednesday**. **They will mark their homework in the lesson which they will bring home in a folder along with their new piece of homework.**

English and Maths

Reading – please ensure that your child reads for 20 minutes every day. Talk to them about what they have read and ask some questions. For example re-tell the story, how did the author create suspense? What emotive language was used?

English & Maths activity—each week your child will receive an activity to complete please ensure your child spends at least 15 minutes a day on either.

Spellings, Times tables & Mental Maths - The children will be tested weekly. Please ensure your child learns these at home.

Spellings:

Your child will receive spelling homework weekly. Please help them to look at and read the word, say the word and then cover and try to write the word from memory. This should take 5 minutes each day and the repetition will help your child to memorise and learn the key words. This in turn will help with their reading and writing.