

Important Information

CAT Day

Year 4 CAT Day is held on a Thursday, once a fortnight. The dates for this term are: 12th January, 26th January, 9th February (this may be subject to change as it falls on our Parent/Carer Consultation evening), 2nd March, 16th March and 30th April. Children will take part in a Drama, Art/DT and Talking to Writing session. Therefore all children should wear clothes suitable for creative activities and ones which allow the children to move easily.

Book Bags

Please remind your child to bring their book bag to school every day. Within their book bag they should have their spelling book, reading book and reading record book. If your child does not have a book bag they are available to purchase in the school office for £4.00.

Homework

In Year 4, we expect children to complete the following homework daily:

- Read their reading book to an adult or older sibling. Children are encouraged to sign their own reading record book after they have read daily. Please feel free to sign your child's reading record book and where possible, make a comment about their reading.
- Practise counting in multiples of a number and lead on to recalling their multiplication and division facts rapidly. Children should know their times tables (multiplication and division facts) up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4.
- Practise using formal written methods to solve problems involving the four operations.
- Learn their spellings and their meanings ready for their spelling test on Friday. Ideas to support your child with this are at the back of the spelling book.

Your children will be set a piece of mathematics and a piece of English homework each week. This will consolidate and extend the skills taught during that week. Homework will be set on a Friday and must be returned by the end of the day on Wednesday. We encourage your child to complete their homework to support them in their learning. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any comments regarding the homework being given.

In addition to this, your child will also be given the opportunity to complete a piece of Project Homework. This piece of homework is set each month and the children are asked to individually interpret the theme that is given to them. The deadline for each piece of Project Homework will be published in the newsletter each week, alongside the current theme. Please encourage your child to vary the style of their homework from project to project.

If you require any further information, please speak to your child's class teacher or to the Lower KS2 Assistant Head Teacher, Mr Smith.

Thank you for your continued support.

Year 4

Curriculum Information



Spring Term 2017

English

Your child will take part in daily English lessons, alongside Park Writes where we expect the children to write at length on a given theme.

The children will be covering various fiction and non-fiction genres across this term. Each learning journey will focus on reading, grammar and writing at sentence level and at length to teach the features of each genre. We will continue to use 'Talk 4 Writing' in order to improve children's writing. They will be encouraged to talk about their ideas in order to develop them, develop their vocabulary and improve their understanding of sentence structure. We will be looking at stories with a warning, explanation texts, journey/quest stories and discussion texts. Your child will also have daily reading sessions where they will work on skills such as asking questions to develop their understanding of a text, identify features across genres of text and infer meaning and justify using evidence from the text.

Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- Expose your child to stories with a warning, journey stories and explanation texts by visiting your local library.
- Talk to your child about what they are going to write before writing. Ensure they are forming sentences orally before writing.
- Model speaking in grammatically correct sentences and model the correct grammar if they speak incorrectly. E.g. "I bought a carrot." "You bought a carrot"
- Read to your child as well as listening to them read. They learn from the way others read!



P.E.

In Year 4, your child will be continuing their swimming lessons. They will attend a 30 minute session every Friday. During this time they will learn how to stay safe around water. This includes pool-side safety and swimming skills.

Ideas for supporting your child at home:

Your child would really benefit from practising the skills they are learning in their lessons. Take your child to Atherton Leisure Centre for them to show you their swimming skills.



Computing

The children will be developing their data handling skills in computing this term. They will improve their knowledge of Microsoft Excel and how to complete various tasks on the program. They will collect data using various search engines. The children will also be looking at how to present this data in various tables and graphs.

Ideas for supporting your child at home: encourage your child to practise using Microsoft excel at home and reading information from various types of tables and charts.

Year 4 - Spring 2017

Mathematics

The children in Year 4 will continue to develop their fluency, reasoning and problem solving skills and in order for all children to learn towards mastery, we will continue to teach topics over longer periods of time.

This term, the children's learning will centre around statistics where they will be reading and interpreting various types of tables and graphs. A majority of the term will be spent looking at fractions. This will include finding equivalent fractions, identifying the difference between mixed and improper fractions, simplifying fractions and adding and subtracting fractions. We will also begin to look at time and convert between seconds, minutes and hours.

Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- Practise counting in multiples of 6, 9, 7, 11 and 12.
- Use every given opportunity to express values as fractions.
- Practise reading and interpreting information from everyday tables and charts i.e. bus timetable.
- Encourage your child to read the time at home at various intervals throughout the day.
- Talk about key events in the day and when they would happen. E.g. Would you have breakfast at 8am or 8pm?
- Use the mathematics page on our website to access fun mathematics games.



Learning Challenge Curriculum

This year we will continue to deliver the **science, history and geography** curriculum through a series of Learning Challenges:

- **'What do rocks tell us about the way the Earth was formed?'** Children will learn about the three main types of rock; igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic.
- **'Why has Greece always been in the news?'** Children will use their research skills to learn about Ancient Greece. They will learn about how events in the past have influenced our lives now and the role that the Ancient Greeks played in the establishment of democracy.
- **'Where would you choose to build a city?'** Children will learn what is needed to make a city. They will develop their understanding of rivers and transport to compare the similarities and differences between cities and small towns.
- **Science Week** The children will take part in a week long investigation. During this time they will follow the process of planning, carrying out and analysing the results of an investigation.

Ideas for supporting your child at home:

- Become a member of your local library and enjoy books based on our challenges.
- Talk to your child about our topics, what information can you share with them?
- Research information with your child using the internet, what can you find out together?

R.E.

Children will be discussing the meaning and uses of light in various religions. They will also be learning about the Hindu festival of Diwali. They will be answering the following questions:

- Why is light important at different religious festivals?
- How and why do Hindus celebrate Diwali?

Please talk to your child about other religions and the similarities and differences between them.