

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Welcome back and welcome to Year 4! We are delighted to have the children back in school and very much look forward to working with them over the course of this school year. The purpose of this letter is to keep you informed about the work the children will be doing during the Autumn Term. Moreover, due to an increased focus on basic skills in the Autumn Term, there will be a few changes to our curriculum for this first half term. However, we still ensure that the children will have a broad and balanced curriculum throughout.

Recovery Curriculum

We will endeavour to support each and every child in returning to school. For most children their daily goal in going to school is not just to learn but to see their friends and to feel a sense of self-worth that only a peer group can offer. We cannot underestimate the impact of the loss of that social interaction. It is as key to their holistic development as any lesson. What worries will they have because grown-ups have stopped them going to school for a period of time?

For many children the loss of structure will be devastating and as such, we will ensure that our curriculum gives all children chance to adapt to school, this term and beyond.

English

English work this term includes:

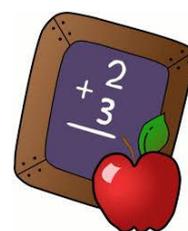
- Contemporary Fiction- *The World's Worst Children*
- Classic Stories- *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*
- Persuasive writing
- Explanation Texts
- Contemporary Poetry- *Jelly Boots, Smelly Boots* by Michael Rosen



Within their written work, there will be an increased focus on accurate use of punctuation, awareness of tense and varying the sentence types used in writing. Children will be taught to use embedded clauses, fronted adverbials as well as ensuring tenses are accurate throughout. We shall continue to encourage the children's enthusiasm and independence when creating their written pieces. They will be consolidating their knowledge of common spelling patterns and irregular High Frequency Words.

Maths

This term, we will be covering; place value with numbers up to 4-digits; corresponding multiplication and division facts; counting on or back in 3s, 4s, 8s, 50s, and even halves; understanding and recognising fractions. The children will continue to learn how to use 'more formal written methods of calculation' (column method addition and subtraction up to 3-digits) as well as solving reasoning problems, involving measures and money. Mental Maths will focus on instant recall of taught facts, including number bonds and times table recall. In addition to this, we will be having Active Maths sessions four times a week. The thirty minute sessions will focus on engaging the children in maths in a practical way for example incorporating the outdoor environment into their learning.



Times tables will be a focus this year in both mental maths and Active Maths as it is an expectation that Year 4 children know all of their times tables, up to 12x12 by the end of the school year.

Theme

Our theme until Christmas is 'On The Move.' Throughout this topic, the children will be learning about the history of Coventry's connection with the motor and bike industry with a real focus on STEM. We are very excited to launch our new theme with our Transport Day on Tuesday 15th September where the children will have the chance to show how they move about - whether that be on bicycle, scooter, skateboards or just using their legs. We also have some vehicles visiting the school site for us to explore which we are certain will hook the children ready for an exciting term. We will spend time researching James Starley - who was once a huge part of the Coventry bicycle industry - and the evolution of the bike. We also couldn't ignore our important input into the Coventry car industry and how this has shaped our city. We will study roads and maps using keys and symbols to support our reading. During Design and Technology children will design, make and evaluate a product that they may eat when visiting the service station. We have multiple opportunities for art and design, where children will be studying the works of ceramic artist Mairi Stone and using her work as a stimulus to create their own masterpieces. Throughout these lessons, children will have opportunities to problem solve, build on their resilience and take pride in the pieces of work they produce.



Physical Education - PE

This term, activities will include a dance focus on **Tuesdays**, and swimming/ invasion games on a **Friday**. Due to the current Covid 19 situation, we are still unsure as to whether we will be taking the children swimming this term. More information will follow regarding this.

To ensure that the children always have their kit for lessons, we suggest that they bring their appropriate kit to school although at the moment we will only change children into their kit if absolutely necessary. We will be changing into appropriate footwear for all sessions. Can we remind you that children are required to wear a white t-shirt and dark coloured shorts, or tracksuit bottoms. Earrings must be taken out or covered, and as in school, long hair must be tied back. Children must have a change of clothes for PE, and not wear the clothes they wear during the day. Finally, if the children are swimming on a Friday, please ensure that they have their swimming costumes within them on this day and have a comfortable tracksuit to wear to and from the swimming pool.



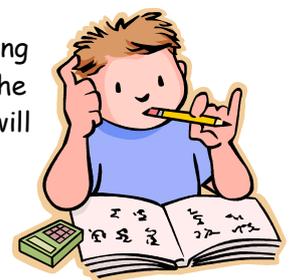
Personal, Social and Health Education - PSHE

As usual, we will be using the Jigsaw scheme of work for our PSHE. Initially, the children will be thinking about their personal and academic goals and targets for this school year. Following this, the children will be learning about themselves as individuals and the importance of making 'right choices' and reflecting on responsibilities, rights, rewards and consequences.



Homework

- The children will be given weekly **spellings** to practise, which cover the spelling pattern that they have been learning that week. This will form the basis of the 'spelling application task', which children will complete in class each week. They will also be given a timestable based piece of homework each week.
- Children are expected to **read their banded reading book at least 3 times a week** and record this in their reading diaries. The class teacher will monitor these on a weekly basis.



Many thanks for your continued support; we look forward to work with you this school term. As always, if there are any questions, just shout!

Yours sincerely,

Mr Thomas, Mrs Hindmarsh and Miss McDonald