

Spring Term Newsletter Year 4

Welcome back to a new Term. We hope you and your children have had an enjoyable break. We had a lovely Autumn term with your children. Thank you for supporting us. Having read the writing of your children, it was very clear what an impact our study of The Ancient Greeks had made on the children and just how much knowledge they had soaked up! Well done, Year 4. Your brochures advertising Greek holidays were also very persuasive.

For weekly updates, please go onto our school website. On the Year 4 page, you will find a brief overview of each week. The website is usually updated by midday every Tuesday in term time.

Music:

We would like to say a special thank you to all the children for their magnificent contribution to our End of Term Christmas Carol Service. Both the Carol Service and events in the community were excellent. We are so proud of you! Thank you for all your parental support and encouragement throughout this period, especially if you were part of the team of adults who helped us walk and accompany the children at these events. We could not have done this without you!

This term, Music features strongly again in the curriculum. We continue to learn harder notes on the recorder with Mrs. Saxelby, to sing in French with Mr. Ownsworth and to learn new songs linked to our next topic about the impact of The Romans in Britain called 'What have the Romans ever done for us?'

Geography:

Our next topic about the impact of The Romans in Britain will have a strong Geographical focus, covering map work skills, the main cities of Britain, volcanoes, rivers, settlement and the water cycle.

Maths:

We continue through the National Curriculum, welcoming your support on chanting times tables with your child and carrying out Mental Maths activities. Under the 2014 Curriculum, Year 4 children are expected to know **all** their multiplication tables. This is quite a challenge, yet of huge benefit to the children. Tables feature in our daily work, but still require further rehearsal at home, so we really seek your help with this, night by night. Please use the games which are linked from our [Year 4 webpage](#). It would also help if your child has a watch to wear and can practise telling the time with you on a daily basis. Roman Numerals will also feature in lessons this term.

The children will have assessments at the end of term and on-going informal assessments based on the objectives of Curriculum 2014 in Mathematics and English.

'My Maths' homework will continue to be set. This resource can also be accessed at any time should you wish to rehearse topics with your child which they feel they need more practice in. It's always worth working alongside your child with this to make sure that the skills practised in the lesson are secure before attempting the homework task itself.

Literacy:

Our lessons will be cross- curricular and inspired by our Roman work. Our genre themes will be: historical settings, explanations, creative writing and recounts.

Please continue to read and share books with your child on a regular basis, making sure that you discuss what is being read to aid comprehension. There are huge benefits in a child reading every week night at home to an adult, even helping comprehension with word problems in Maths!

Copies of our weekly spellings, predominantly taken from Curriculum 2014 Statutory Word Requirements, will be sent home for your child to practice every Tuesday and will be tested the following week. There is also a focus on grammar work in the National Curriculum, which we shall cover in class on a weekly basis. We will be looking at fronted adverbials and pronouns.

ICT:

Much of our teaching will be through cross curricular links. The focus will be on sensors, data loggers and other tools as part of our investigation of data and information. The children will use branching data bases to enter, organize and search data.

SCIENCE:

This subject will again be linked to our main topic about the Romans and will include changing states of matter through heating, cooling, evaporation and condensation.

We will also be covering Art & Design and PSHE. It would be helpful if you could start saving laces and foam insoles and any old footwear which we can use to turn into Roman Sandals.

We look forward to more outdoor P.E as the weather improves. Please ensure your child has an appropriate, warm outdoor PE kit, as well as an indoor P.E kit for Gymnastics.

Mr. Ownsworth's class will re-commence their swimming lessons at Romiley Marina on Monday 8th January 2018.

We are again very fortunate to be supported by our wonderful Teaching Assistants this term, who make such a difference on a daily basis and we thank them for all their commitment and skill.

Thank you for reading this update and we hope your child enjoys their learning this term.

Mr. M. Ownsworth Mrs. G. Saxelby