



## Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter Spring Term 2017

Happy New Year! I hope you have all had a fun, yet restful Christmas break. The year 4 teachers were very impressed with the progress made by your children and are very keen to continue this drive in the Spring Term. As we enter this short but exciting term, year 4 teachers have planned inspiring and enjoyable lessons, which will help the children to develop and deepen their learning through exciting and inspiring lessons. In order to support your child at home, I have outlined the topics that we will be learning this term:

English	<p><b>Narrative poetry</b> – studying the language of poetry in the style of a story.</p> <p><b>Writing and performing a play</b> – focusing on the features of a play script; language, format and punctuation.</p> <p><b>Stories from other cultures</b> – using imagery, similes, metaphors and grammar concepts for impact, such as word order and sentence length as well as effective adjectives and adverbs, linked to Geography.</p> <p><b>Explanatory texts</b> – using the Science topic of Electricity or geographical study of Switzerland to write an explanatory text about a specific topic, using technical language.</p> <p><b>Grammar</b> – weekly focus on different elements that will include punctuation, spellings, tenses, sentence length and word order which the children will be encouraged to use in their writing across all subjects.</p>
Maths	<p><b>Symmetry</b> – identifying lines of symmetry in regular and compound shapes.</p> <p><b>Angles</b> – recognising acute, obtuse, reflex and right angles in 2D shapes. Beginning to use a protractor to measure a given angle</p> <p><b>Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division</b> – continuing to develop efficient skills using number bonds and mental recall. Also practising effective written methods when calculating sums using 4 and 5 digit numbers. Recall of multiplication and division facts up to 12x12.</p> <p><b>Problem solving</b> – breaking down 1 and multi-step worded problems using all four number operations and identifying mathematical language.</p> <p><b>Area and perimeter</b> – Calculating the area of regular and compound shapes using multiplication and addition skills.</p> <p><b>Co-ordinates</b> – plotting and drawing 2D shapes in 4 quadrants and reading scale using positive and negative integers</p> <p><b>Translation</b> – moving 2D shapes through quadrants, using co-ordinates.</p> <p><b>Rounding numbers</b> – using whole numbers and decimals to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. This could also include rounding to the nearest 10<sup>th</sup>, 100<sup>th</sup> and 1000<sup>th</sup>.</p>
Science	<p><b>Electricity</b> – understanding how circuits work, making a circuit, drawing circuits, components that help to create a simple circuit. Conductors and insulator.</p> <p><b>States of matter</b> – identifying matter as a solid, liquid or gas. How these states can be changed using a variety of processes such as heat, cold, evaporation, condensation, melting and freezing.</p>
Topic/ Foundation subjects.	<p>Mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes/ European country comparison and study- Switzerland (<b>Geography</b>), Money containers (<b>DT</b>), Drawing and sketching - Portraiture (<b>Art</b>), Using minims and crochets to create music/ percussion/ playing as part of an ensemble (<b>Music</b>), Animals/pets/ numbers to 50/ family and birthdays (<b>French</b>), Religious clothing/relevance of God in the future (<b>Religious Education</b>), Getting on a falling out (<b>PSHE</b>), <b>Sex and Relationship Education</b>, History of Computing/ROAR E-Safety (<b>ICT</b>), Swimming/gymnastics/Tennis (<b>Physical Education.</b>)</p>

You may also find the following information useful:

### **School library**

Each class will have the opportunity to visit the library during the week:

Mondays- **4LSM**; Wednesdays – **4M**; Thursday – **4J**; Fridays – **4P**

### **PE**

Children will have an indoor and outdoor session of PE during the week. P.E times are flexible and therefore would appreciate it, if you would ensure that your child's PE kit is in school every Monday morning. The P.E kit list is available on the school website.

### **Home learning**

We would really appreciate it if you could assist your child and support them in their Home Learning activities:

<b>Homework/Subject</b>	<b>Guidance</b>
<b>Spellings</b>	These will be given out every Tuesday and due in the following Monday. They will also be tested on Tuesdays too.
<b>Maths</b>	This will be given out every Thursday, due in the following Thursday. Tasks will vary between MyMaths and activities in their Maths books.
<b>Foundation/Topic</b>	This will be set every 3 weeks on a Thursday. It will be an open ended, creative task to consolidate children's learning in class.
<b>Reading</b>	20 minutes every day. Please sign in the boxes in the reading records to acknowledge this. Each page will account for one week. Children are also able to comment in the boxes.

### **Ways to help your child at home**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Ideas</b>
<b>English</b>	Reading: books, newspapers, articles on the Internet, leaflets. Writing; a diary entry after a family outing, poems about hobbies, a rap, short stories about a holiday, cutting up pictures from magazines and writing a character description.
<b>Maths</b>	Estimating the total cost for a shopping trolley, counting money in the piggy banks, budgeting to save for a special item, planning a party, creating characters using 2D shapes, symmetrical patterns using a mirror, calculating number of hours until a special trip or visit.
<b>Science</b>	Finding items in the cupboards and looking at their consistency, mixing water and oil with a dash of food colouring to make a lava lamp, nature walk to identify different plants, trees and flowers, recording different weather.
<b>Foundation subjects</b>	Listening to different types of music, using a map or globe to identify different countries, drawing real-life objects, making structures using junk, discussing topics such as values and religion.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes,

Mrs H Mistry - Assistant Headteacher (Years 3 and 4)