

Year 4 Newsletter

Autumn Term 2017

Welcome to Year 4 and a new school year!

I hope that your child has had an enjoyable summer and is looking forward to an exciting new year at school.

This Newsletter should give you an idea of what your child will be learning, how you can support them and other information about Year 4.



A little about me...

Let me introduce myself. My name is Miss Paris and I'm a qualified Primary Teacher, with the title BA (Hons) in Primary Education with Qualified Teaching Status and 20 years teaching experience! I am also a mum to a very energetic 11 year old son called Aaron.

I am really looking forward to working with your child and with you, this year.



Year 4 Autumn Term Creative Curriculum

Our topic this term will be The Shaking Romans: a study of the Ancient Romans, Italy and Volcanoes. It's another very exciting and engaging topic which I hope the children will find interesting. We will link our topic to creating patterns like Roman mosaics, creating sculptures of figures, comparing the locations of Britain and Italy, describing the physical features of volcanoes and understanding earthquakes. In French we will talk about travel, weather, days of the week, transport, games and songs, following and giving instructions and describing their likes and dislikes. We will also be learning some Latin and exploring how that language has influenced English today.

In ICT we will be looking at e-mails and the internet. We will start by looking at the internet and using search engines and then moving on to learning to recognise spam e-mails and websites that contain hoaxes and what to do about them. After half-term we will be looking at how computer software is made, moving on to designing our own app!

RE will look at Harvest and explore religious stories such as the Creation Story and the story of Siddharta and the Swan, leading to understanding how to care for the environment and how we celebrate special times in our lives. Class 4 will lead the school in a celebration for Christingle. PE will be swimming and this term Games will begin with Tag Rugby. Swimming will be on a Wednesday morning and Games on a Monday. As the weather gets colder, Games kit will need to include dark jogging bottoms, white t-shirt with dark sweater and suitable footwear with a carrier bag to take them home in case they are muddy.

If you have any artefacts which may enhance our topic please let me know!



Year 4 Autumn Term Literacy

This term's Literacy will be planned around books linked to our topic. We will look at a range of fiction and non-fiction books, including Escape from Pompeii, The Firework-Maker's Daughter and a range of information books about the Romans and Volcanoes. Throughout the term the children will be experiencing writing in a range of genre's including narratives, information leaflets, instructions and poetry. We will imagine we were present at the destruction of Pompeii as report as eyewitnesses giving a historical recount of events, leading to a newspaper report on the Roman invasion. Through study of these texts, we will focus on fronted adverbials (e.g. Last Friday... After eating his meal... Carefully...), use of prepositions (among, behind, between, under), clauses and present and past tense (is, was, want, wanted, eat, ate, go, went). They will be practicing their presentation skills and practicing handwriting throughout the week. Spelling rules we will focus on the year 4 high frequency words and prefixes (such as im, de, dis, un and in).



Year 4 Autumn Term Numeracy

This term we will be looking at the place value of numbers, ensuring they can confidently order numbers including decimals and completing associated word problems. We will ensure they can confidently use column addition and subtraction, using inverse operations to check working out. We will be covering all the four rules of number (+-x÷) and carrying out investigations where they can apply these skills. We will be reviewing their times tables and developing their confidence in mentally calculating these. After practice, we will look at how remainders occur in division, and use the multiplication facts they know to make division facts. We will solve problems using the maths skills we have learnt, linked to our topic of The Shaking Romans. We will look at Roman Numbers up to 100 and how they differ to our own number system.

Year 4 Autumn Term Science

This term the children will be exploring Electricity and Sound. The children will be learning the key vocabulary associated with these topics, building their own circuits and exploring why some circuits don't work and planning their own investigations, which they can then carry out. We will find out how sound is created and the difference between pitch and volume.

Homework and Diaries



Year 4 will be issued homework on a Friday and this will be due in on the following Wednesday. Raffle tickets are issued for it being returned on time, with extra tickets being given if it is returned on the Monday. House points are achieved for a high standard of work and presentation. Homework will be used to support things we have covered in lessons and alternate between Numeracy and Literacy. This should usually be completed on the given sheet. If for any reason your child has not been able to complete this please put a note in their Homework Diary.

The children will be given weekly spellings to learn on a Monday to be learnt for the following Monday. To encourage them to learn these there will be house point rewards. These will normally follow a spelling pattern but sometimes might be words which are noted within their work, topic related or science related.

During the year the children will be given their tables to learn when necessary.

The children are also expected to read their reading books on a regular basis at home. To encourage this house points will awarded; 1 house point for 3 signatures over the week, more can be earned for extra signatures - a great incentive! The staff in Year 4 will endeavor to hear them read as often as they can.

In the Homework Diaries, the children will write their Homework tasks. If these are checked and signed by parents weekly, house points are also given for this.

Contact

I am normally available after school if you have any queries. I can also be contacted on my school email address which is staff30@croft.staffs.sch.uk . Please feel free to write any comments or messages in the Homework Diary and use it as a method of communication between school and home.

**Thank you for your support,
Miss V Paris**