

# Year 4 Newsletter

Spring term 2019

## Welcome to Year 4 and a new school year!

I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday and are fresh and ready for a new school term. This Newsletter should give you an idea of what your child will be learning during the Spring term, how you can support them and other information about the next few weeks.



### Year 4 Spring Term Creative Curriculum

Our topic this term will be 'Potions', where the children will be welcomed to an amazing world of potions and their properties. It's another very exciting and engaging topic which I hope the children will find interesting. We will link our topic to capacity and fractions in maths, materials and their properties in science, and sketching and designing our own potion bottles in Art and D.T.

In French we will retell stories and give instructions before moving on to describing animals and their habitats. We will be looking at and creating profiles in Computing, and presenting our topic work in different ways.

In RE we will study Islam, comparing it to other religions and worships, before turning our attention to Lent.

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



### Year 4 Spring Term Literacy



We will be basing our work on *George's Marvellous Medicine* by Roald Dahl for the first half term. We will be creating biographies for *Grandma*, persuasive letters, character and setting descriptions and newspaper articles. Throughout all these writing opportunities we will look at and learn about the correct punctuation needed in each situation. The children will also be encouraged to write sentences with an exciting range of sentence openers.

During the second half of the term we will be looking at other texts linked to Potions including excerpts from *Romeo & Juliet* and *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare.

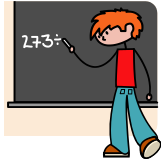
Linked to these texts we will learn about homophones (for example *scene/seen* and *mail/male*), embedded clauses, similes and metaphors. We will learn how to recognise and write them and then use them in our own writing.

Spellings will look at word endings for example: 'ture', 'cian', 'sion', 'tion'. We will also look at different prefixes for example: 'anti' and 'inter'. How apostrophes are used to show possession with plural nouns is also one of our objectives.

In guided reading sessions we will be reading parts of *George's Marvellous Medicine* and will be characters in the story. We will also look at a range of poems and information books that link to our topic.

### Year 4 Spring Term Science

This term the children will be exploring States of matter (Solids, Liquids and Gases) and All living things, including humans. The children will be learning the key vocabulary associated with these topics, such as evaporation, condensation, solidifying, and planning their own investigations, which they will then carry out. These topics are linked to our topic of Potions.



## Year 4 Spring Term Numeracy

*This term we will have a focus on written multiplication and division methods, we will start out with practical methods using Base 10 before moving on to different written methods. Following this we will be looking at shading fractions of shapes and finding fractions of a number. We will move onto equivalent fractions. We will then solve problems using fractions and begin to add fractions with the same denominator.*

*Later in the term we will look at corresponding fractions and decimals and how we can change fractions into decimals and vice versa. We will compare and order decimals, using numberlines.*

*We will also be solving simple measure and money problems involving fractions and decimals to two decimal places and estimating, comparing and calculating different measures, including money in pounds and pence, later on in the term.*

*Throughout the term we will be revisiting weekly mental maths skills and practices, such as their times tables and division facts.*

**Year 4 will be going on a residential to Kingswood later this term. Details about this will be given at a meeting in school - date to be confirmed. If you cannot attend the meeting do not worry, the information will be sent home.**

*PE will be indoors on a Thursday afternoon (gymnastics) and this term our Games lessons will be on a Wednesday morning (hockey and then netball).*

*As the weather has got 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. Kit for gymnastics should consist of dark shorts and a white T-shirt.*

**If kit and uniform could be labelled with your child's name this would be most useful.**

### *Homework and Diaries*

Year 4 will continue to be issued homework on a Friday and this will be due in on the following Wednesday. House points are issued for it being returned on time. Extra house points are achieved for a high standard of work and presentation.



The children will now 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. Some of these words do not follow a pattern.

Children will continue to be given their multiplication tables to learn and can use TT Rockstars to help them. They will be tested on times tables at various points throughout the week. The children are also expected to read their reading books at home on a regular basis. The staff in school will endeavour to hear them read as often as they can.

### **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](mailto: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.**