

# Year 4 Newsletter

Spring term 2018

## 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 Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll for the first half of the term. We will be creating Diary Entries by The White Rabbit, shape poems, persuasive letters, character and setting descriptions and play scripts. Throughout all these writing opportunities we will look at and learn about the correct punctuation needed in each situation.

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.

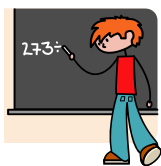
Spellings will look at word endings for example: 'ture', 'cian', 'sion', 'tion'. We will also look at different prefixes for example: 'anti' and 'inter'. How apostrophes are used to show possession with plural nouns is also one of our objectives.

In guided reading sessions we will be reading parts of Alice's adventures in Wonderland and discussing the character of Alice. 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 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 on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January. If you cannot attend this meeting, the information will also be sent home. The date for the residential is Wednesday March 14<sup>th</sup> to Friday March 16<sup>th</sup>.**

*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.

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

The children are also expected to read their reading books on a regular basis at home. The staff in Year 4 will endeavor 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.**