

Year 4 Newsletter

Autumn Term 2021

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, where we are hopefully starting to get back to a more “normal” way of life and learning. 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 over 20 years teaching experience! I am also a mum to a 15-year-old son called Aaron who is taking his GCSEs this year. I am really looking forward to working with your child and with you, this coming year.



Year 4 Autumn Term Creative Curriculum

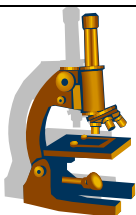
Our topic this term will be ‘Scumdiddlyumptious!’ where the children will be tucking in to a yummy journey of discovering fantastic fruits, venerable vegetables and tantalising treats! We will link our topic to measures and money in maths, The Mayans in History and The Rainforests and Food Miles in Geography. If you have any artefacts which may enhance our topic please let me know!

In French we will talk about what activities we think we are good or not so good at, learn the months of the year and create simple party invitations. In computing we will be looking at e-mails and the internet. We will be particularly concentrating on staying safe online - recognising dangers, how to avoid them and how to deal with them and how to search on the internet effectively - recognising how to word searches and make them more specific.

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 hopefully lead the school in a celebration for Christingle at the end of term.

Year 4's PE lessons this term will be on a Monday morning with our sports coach Miss Cole and on a Tuesday morning with myself. The children will need to come to school in their PE kits of dark tracksuit trousers, white T-shirt and trainers with their school jumper over the top. On a Tuesday the children will need to wear shorts underneath their tracksuit trousers as we will be doing gymnastics in the hall.

This year we will returning to our weekly Rock It music lessons, these will be every Thursday afternoon with Mrs Bough.



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.



Year 4 Autumn Term Literacy

This term we are really excited to introduce to children to a new way of learning the skills that they need for their writing through a new approach called "The Write Stuff". Using this, the children will learn how to use different grammatical areas eg, adverbs and adverbial phrases, complex sentences and paragraphs in their writing along with writing techniques such as similes and metaphors to add description. We will be looking at a selection of narratives, including *Charlie and The Chocolate factory* and *The Great Chocoplot* along with Non-Fiction and Poetry to provide the children with a stimulus and ideas for their writing. Using this new approach, I will model different ways of writing sentences using the techniques which the children will then be able to use to help them write their own versions. These sentences will then build up to provide the children with ideas for their longer independent pieces of writing. They children will be practicing their presentation skills and practicing handwriting throughout the week. Spelling rules we will focus on include 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 recognize the value of each digit in 4-digit numbers and round numbers to the nearest 10 and 100. We will ensure they can confidently use column addition and subtraction where exchanges are needed and use inverse operations to check their 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. We will then move on to fractions and decimals finding equivalent fractions and how we can use place value grids and number lines to show decimals. We will solve problems using the maths skills we have learnt, linked to our topic of *Scrumdiddlyumptious*. With *Mrs Denning* on a Monday morning the children will look at measures and shape, focusing on converting measurements of length and recognising and comparing angles in triangles and quadrilaterals.

Homework and Diaries



Year 4 will be issued homework on a Friday and this will be due in on the following Wednesday. House points are also achieved for a high standard of work and presentation. Homework will be used to support areas 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 Friday to be learnt for the following Friday. To encourage them to learn these there will be house point rewards. These words 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 using the TT Rockstars programme

The children are also expected to read their reading books on a regular basis at home. To encourage this house points will awarded; 1 housepoint for every signature over the week, the more signatures - the more housepoints - a great incentive! The staff in Year 4 will endeavour 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 will also be given.

Please can I remind you that if your child would like to toast this term then it will need to be paid for in advance for the half term which is an amount of £7.40 Can this please be brought into school in a named envelope and handed in to myself or the office. Thank you.

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**