

Year 4 Newsletter

Autumn Term 2020

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. Things are obviously going to be a little bit different this year, but I know that together we can rise and face any challenges that we encounter.

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 am 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 very energetic 14 year old son called Aaron.

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

Recovery Curriculum

Due to the children missing a large chunk of the Year 3 curriculum last year due to the Covid19 lockdown, we will be starting our year looking at those essential areas that they have missed before moving on to our usual topic based Year 4 curriculum. The whole of the school will be basing their first 2 weeks of learning on the book Kites by Simon Mole, which as well as being a superb stimulus for reading, writing and other areas of the curriculum has a valuable lesson on change, perseverance and belonging.



Year 4 Autumn Term Creative Curriculum

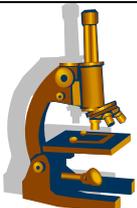
Our topic for the second half of this term will be 'Scumdiddlyumptious!' where the children will be tucking in to a yummy journey of discovering fantastic fruits, venerable vegetables and tantalising treats! We will link our topic to measures and money in maths, The Mayans in History and The Rainforests and Food Miles in Geography.

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 lesson this term will be on a Monday morning with our sports coach Miss Cole. 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.



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

We will be basing our work in the second half of the term on *The Great Kapok Tree* by Lynne Cherry. We will be writing persuasive letters, setting descriptions and newspaper articles about *The Amazon Rainforest*. Throughout all these writing opportunities we will look at and learn about the correct punctuation needed in each situation. We will then be looking at other texts linked to *Scrumdiddlyumptious* including excerpts from *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory* and various non-fiction books about the rainforests and chocolate.

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 *Scrumdiddlyumptious*. At all times we will be mindful to ensure that any gaps missed in Year 3 are filled before moving on to the Year 4 syllabus.

Homework and Diaries

Year 4 will be issued homework on a Friday and this will be due in on the following Wednesday. Housepoints are issued for it being returned on time, with extra points being given if it is returned on the Monday. 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 Monday to be learnt for the following Monday. 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 be awarded; 1 housepoint for every signature over the week, the more signatures - the more housepoints - 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 will also be earned.

Contact

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

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

