

Year 4 Newsletter

Spring term 2024

Welcome back to Year 4 and a Happy New Year to you all!

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 this next term.



Year 4 Spring 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 how they erupt. 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. We will also be learning some Latin and exploring how that language has influenced English today.

In French we will cover the topic: My Home which looks at what type of house they live in, how to say the different rooms in a house and ask and answer questions both verbally and in written form.

We will be looking at and writing for different audiences in Computing, and then coding.

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

We will take part in Rock It ensemble music lessons on a Thursday afternoon, where we will be learning new pieces for our exam at the end of the year. We will also look at and compose pieces of music that link to our topic.

Year 4's PE lessons this term will continue to be on a Monday morning with our sports coach Mr Hayes 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 fitness in the hall.

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



Year 4 Spring Term Literacy



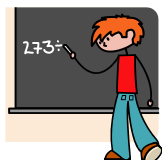
This term, the children will learn how to use different grammatical areas e.g. relative clauses and fronted adverbial phrases, complex sentences and paragraphs in their writing along with writing techniques such as similes, metaphors and using puns to add description. They will also learn to use different punctuation e.g. possessive apostrophes, inverted commas and brackets. We will be looking at a selection of narratives, including The Wizards of Once along with Non-Fiction and Poetry to provide the children with a stimulus and ideas for their writing. Using this approach, I will continue to 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 handwriting throughout the week.

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.

Here are a few books that the children might enjoy reading for enjoyment this term: The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster, Dragons of Prime (a collection of poems) and The National Geographic for Kids Weird but True, a collection of facts for 2024.

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. We will be getting out into the school grounds to investigate local habitats and the animals and plants that live there, which we will then work on classifying.



Year 4 Spring Term Numeracy

This term we will have a focus on multiplication and division facts up to 12×12 . Moving on to multiplying 3 numbers together and factor pairs. Following this we will be looking at shading fractions of shapes and finding fractions of a number. We will move onto equivalent fractions and fractions that are greater than 1. 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 begin to recognise tenths and hundredths and we will compare and order decimals, using number lines.

We will also be investigating area starting with counting squares before moving on to using multiplication facts and comparing areas of different shapes.

Throughout the term we will be revisiting weekly mental maths skills such as their times tables, division facts and number bonds. It is important that the children learn and practise these regularly as they need to know and be able to recall all facts up to 12×12 at speed.

All Year 4's will take part in the national times table test in June. There will be a meeting for parents this term to explain how this will work and how you can support your child at home.

PHSE:

In PHSE, the children will be following the topic of Me and My Safety.

In these lessons the children will focus on recognising the differences between danger and hazards, understanding the school rules and keeping themselves safe online. As a school, we will be participating in the NSPCC's Speak out Stay safe campaign. These are safeguarding sessions that teach the children how to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly way. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline.

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 continue to 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 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 using TTRockstars and will be tested on these at various points during the week.

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. 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.**