

Autumn Term Class Newsletter Mrs Knowles' class.

A note from Mrs Knowles

Hello everybody, I hope you had a lovely summer holiday and are ready for a brand new school year. I have really enjoyed getting to know you all in the first couple of weeks of term. We have some fantastic topics ahead of us this autumn, especially in history where we will learn about the Stone Age through to the Iron Age and we will even be participating in a Stone Age Workshop on 12th October. How exciting! As you are now in Y4, of course it is your turn this year to have music lessons with the wonderful Mr Perry, so Tuesday mornings are going to be filled with lots of drumming! I know this year will be a great one and I am looking forward to watching you make some super progress. ☺

English

We are reading 'Stone Age Boy' written by Satoshi Kitamura which links nicely with our history topic. The children will be using their writing skills to produce an adventure story inspired by the text, as well as a persuasive leaflet. In the second half term, Y4 will study 'The Tear Thief', a poem written by Carol Ann Duffy where they will explore the features of the poem and write their own additional verses.

In class, we are reading...

'The Creakers' by Tom Fletcher and 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Roald Dahl.

Maths

In maths we will be focusing on:

- Place value
- Rounding
- Additional and subtraction
- Length and perimeter
- Multiplication and division

It is important that the children are learning their times tables at home to support them with their maths work in school.

Science

In science, we will begin the autumn term by exploring forces and magnets, exploring how magnets can attract and repel each other. We will also study 'light and shadows' before moving onto 'electricity', where we will construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts!

History

In history this term we are deepening our understanding of the Stone Age period, through to the Iron Age. Our lessons will be focused on the concepts of food and farming and settlements during this time. We also be looking at artefacts from these periods of history and what they tell us about the way people lived during this time and how life improved. In the second half term we will explore the impact of the Roman invasion on Britain.

Geography

This term in geography we are advancing our map skills by labelling the tropics, equator and western and eastern hemispheres. We will learn what the prime meridian is and be able to locate it. We are also going to focus on the continent of Europe, the children will know the names of, and how many countries there are in Europe, its population and why this is surprising. We will also focus on rivers and be able to mark the routes of five primary rivers in Europe on a map and label them.

Other curriculum information:

Homework

Homework will be given out each **Friday** and should be returned before the **following Friday**. The homework will always be linked to something we are studying in class.

Home Reading

Please listen to your child read **at least three times per week** for 15 minutes and record it in their school diary. Diaries must be signed by an adult after each read and need to be in school every Tuesday to be checked by Mrs Feeley.

Other curriculum information

Skills Builder- Our skills this term are staying positive and team work. The children will complete tasks that will support them to develop these skills and be given opportunities in lessons to exercise them.

Art and Design- This term we will be developing our drawing and painting skills as we learn about the post- impressionist artist 'Paul Cezanne'. We will explore 'Still life' drawing and create our own piece of art work inspired by Cezanne, using both different grades of pencils and paint. In DT we will be designing and creating a torch.

Computing – This term Y4 will be exploring programming using the program 'Scratch', where they will create their own animation and game using their coding and programming skills. We will also be learning about the importance of keeping our personal information safe when using the internet and understanding how not everything online is always factual.

PSHE – 'Managing different relationships' is the focus of our PSHE lessons this term, as well as discussing both cyber and verbal bullying and how to manage these situations.

PE- We will be going swimming on Thursday afternoons. The correct swimming kit will be needed and pupils need to come to school in the correct P.E kit. Swimming costumes and swimming caps are required for girls and trunks for boys. Goggles can be brought if needed.

RE – During the first half term, we will explore the question, 'What makes some books sacred?' where we will learn about why holy books are so important and in the second half term we will learn about the concept of 'Incarnation' as part of our topic Christmas: God with us.

Music- This year our music lessons will be delivered by the Wigan Wider Opportunities service with Mr Perry. There will be concerts held each term for parents! ☺

French- This term, we will be recapping the unit 'All about me' where we will learn basic greetings and how to describe ourselves in French. We will then move onto 'Jeux et chanson' where we will explore games and songs in French.

IT Rock stars and Spelling tests.

Children are expected to complete 20 minutes of IT Rockstar games which will be set each week. This is checked weekly and must be completed. Pupils will need to complete during break times if this is not completed at home.

Spellings will be given out every Monday for a spelling test the following Monday and will follow the rule we have been learning in class. **The pass mark is 7/10.**