

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter – Autumn 1 2022

Welcome back to the new academic year after the long summer break. We trust you all had an enjoyable holiday - it was lovely to see the children return to school on Tuesday looking smart, happy and ready for the term ahead. All the children have had a story to tell about the many wonderful and exciting experiences they have taken part in during the summer break. We have had a busy summer holiday too, planning and preparing many new topics and experiences ready for the children to enjoy and progress in their learning. We have already got stuck into our amazing new units by exploring sound and creating illusions for art projects, along with learning about different Ancient Egyptian deities and using drama to understand what it might feel like to escape the terrors of what might be inside an Ancient Pharaoh's tomb. Seeing the enthusiasm in the children, we are thoroughly looking forward to the term ahead.

Mrs Marshall and Mrs Walizada

English:-

In our Talk For Writing units this half term we will be writing a **suspense story using the model text 'Zelda and the Rain Cat'**. We will be focussing on sentence structure, setting descriptions and how to incorporate interesting fronted adverbials.

Our class novel for this half term will be **'Voices in the Park' by Anthony Browne**. We will be learning how the author has written from four different perspectives and explore techniques used to show but not tell how characters are feeling. We ask that your child reads **at least 3 times per week** and that this is recorded in their reading record thus gaining points for the Bronze – Platinum Awards. .

Science:-

In Science this half term we will be looking at **how sound travels**. We will be using previous skills taught in Year 3 to create **an electrical circuit** and make a buzzer with a switch. This will then be the basis of an **investigation** where student will **explore different sound proofing materials** to work out which one would be the best way of helping people with noisy neighbours.

Maths:-

We will be focussing on developing our understanding of **place value in numbers to 1000** during this term. Your child should be able to order, **partition and compare numbers to 1000**. We will be learning how to not just answer questions but prove and explain how we got to the answer, showing reasoning and problem solving skills. Once Place Value is secure we will move into addition and subtraction.

Humantities:-

This half term we will focus on the history unit **'What did the Ancient Egyptians Believe?'** We will be exploring time lines, the different periods of Ancient Egypt, Pyramids and Mummification. We will link this subject to our Talk for Writing unit allowing the students to have a more extensive range of vocabulary and ideas to write a suspense story.

Spellings: We will be testing students for their current ability and group as appropriate, sending homework home on a Monday ready for spelling tests the following Monday.

Computing:-

Pupils will: learn how to keep their **information safe**, learn how to **recognise safe websites**, learn how **to use search engines effectively** and how the results are selected and ranked, learn how to **recognise inappropriate online behaviour and how to report it**.

RE:

Pupils will learn about **Synagogues, Rabis and key events in the life of Moses** and his importance to Jews. They will learn how the Ten Commandments express a relationship with God and a guide for living. How and why Passover is celebrated today. They will learn about the Torah and prayer thinking about how this relates to today's society.

PSHE:-

This half term's unit is about the **features of positive healthy friendships** such as mutual respect, trust and sharing interests. We will look at strategies to build positive friendships, as well as how to **seek support** with relationships if they feel lonely or excluded. There will be a strong link with computing, looking at **digital etiquette**, how knowing someone online differs from knowing someone face to face and that there **are risks in communicating with someone they don't know**. Children will be given **advice** on what to do or whom to tell if they are worried about any contact online.

Any other information:-

Children still have the opportunity to earn Dojos. Certificates will be awarded during the Friday celebration assemblies. Stars of the day get a pass and the privilege of going to Lunch Time Club. Children who produce outstanding work and attitude to learning will continue to be rewarded with the Woodvale Wonder Certificate during the Celebration Assembly on a Friday. We also like to celebrate achievements outside of school. If your child has made an achievement they would like to share, please inform the class teacher.

PE:-

PE will be on a Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. On Tuesdays it will be Football. Thursday's PE will usually be based inside and this term there will be a focus on Dance where pupils create movements that convey a clear stimulus, refining movements into sequences. They will plan, perform & repeat sequences of movements, experimenting travelling and complex movements. In football the children will learn further ball skills and display an understanding of fair play, working well with others.

Art / DT:-

This half term students will be using mechanical **engravings** as a starting point, pupils will further develop an awareness of **proportion, composition and pattern** in drawing and combine media for effect when developing a drawing into a print. ***We would be grateful for donations of plates with the Willow Pattern' on.***

MFL:-

This half term will be all about learning **adjectives for describing people's physical appearance and their personality**. Creating simple sentences ensuring that the adjectives agree with **the gender of the noun**.