



RHODES AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 4

Spring Term 2018

Curriculum News letter

Class Teachers: Catriona Burrows, Jette Rayner, Amy Gowan

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back and Happy New Year. We hope you had an enjoyable break. Below is some information related to the learning activities we have planned for the spring term.

In **English** this half term, we will base our work on a variety of myths and stories from the Roman period. We will be focusing on recounting historical stories, descriptive writing and persuasive texts. During the second half term, children will base their English work on a core text, 'Varmints'. Grammar, comprehension and spelling will be taught throughout the week within the English session. Children will be tested on their spellings every Friday.

In **Maths** we will be following the Year 4 Curriculum which includes number work, properties of shape, position and direction, measurement and data handling. We will also be encouraging children to develop investigative strategies to solve numerical problems. Children will continue to develop their Mental Maths strategies and consolidate times tables and related division facts. The children will have times tables tests every Friday.

In **Science** our topics will be Sound and States of matter. Children will explore how sound is made, what is meant by pitch and volume and investigate which materials are suitable for muffling sound. They will find out about the properties of different matter (solids, liquids and gas), use their investigation skills to explore different matter and learn about the water cycle.

The full programmes of study for Maths, English and Science are available to download on the Y4 webpage.

In spring 1, our topic is 'The Romans'.

In spring 2, our topic will be 'Good to be Green'

Our Romans topic will have a history focus. Children will explore: The Roman Empire, Roman daily life, the legends of Rome, invasions of Britannia, the lasting Roman legacy and the success of the Roman army.

In **Art and DT** we will be designing shields & catapults and creating mosaics. As part of our P4C/PSHE focus we will be discussing invasion and settlement in the past and present.

In spring 2, we will be learning all about sustainability. Children will learn why it is so important to protect our planet and how to use its resources wisely. They will consider how people can make a big difference by making little changes.

We would be delighted if you have any resources or expertise relating to our topics and would be interested in sharing this with the children. Please get in touch with your class teacher.

In **PE**, our focus for this half term will be invasion games. Children will learn to apply the basic principles of attacking and defending in simple invasion games, work as part of a team and evaluate their own performance. PE will be taught on a Monday (4AG), Tuesday (4CB) and Wednesday (4JR). **4AG will be swimming on Friday morning during the spring term.**

It is essential that children have their PE kits in school everyday. This includes a Rhodes Avenue T-shirt (available from the school office), shorts, jogging bottoms, warm top and appropriate footwear. Children will be asked to remove or cover earrings before taking part in their PE session.

In **Music** the children will be composing, performing and appraising their own music as well as developing an appreciation of different composers and purposes of music. Music lessons will be linked to topic. Children will also have the opportunity to perform songs.

The Year 4 Curriculum Map for the year is available to view on our Y4 webpage.

Homework

Homework at Rhodes Avenue provides children with the opportunity to consolidate their classroom learning. The aim of homework is to develop pupil independence, resilience and resourcefulness. They should be able to complete their homework with minimal adult support, however if your child does struggle with the homework provided, please do not hesitate to speak to the class teacher. Children will be expected to learn spellings and times tables on a weekly basis as well as completing a Maths task to consolidate their learning during the week.

Spellings and times tables: sent out Friday to be learned for the following Friday's test

Maths: sent out Wednesday to be returned by Friday

English: CGP Workbook. Sent out Friday to be returned on the following Monday

Reading: Every night. **Click on the link on the Y4 webpage to see a suggested reading list for pupils in Y4.**

Important Spring term dates for your diaries:

Half term	Monday 12 th to Friday 16 th February
4CB class assembly	Friday 26 th January
4JR class assembly	Friday 2 nd February
4AG class assembly	Thursday 22 nd February
Parents' evenings	Wednesday 7 th & Thursday 8 th March
Science Day	Thursday 15 th March
Easter holidays	Friday 30 th March-Friday 13 th April
End of term	Thursday 29 th March

Healthy Schools

As part of school policy and our commitment to being a Healthy School please ensure that your child's playtime snack is fresh fruit and/or vegetables. Water will always be available during the school day however we are happy for you to bring into school a bottle of water clearly labelled.

If you have any questions or queries, please do remember we are always here to help. Please speak to a member of the team to arrange a mutually convenient time.

We look forward to another fun and productive term,

Catriona Burrows, Jette Rayner & Amy Gowan

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