

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter – Spring Term 2024

Happy New Year! We hope you are ready for the Spring Term after a lovely break. We look forward to planning our residential trip to Astley Burf for the beginning of the Summer Term. As always, we appreciate all of the support you provide at home and look forward to working with you to help your children progress further with their learning.

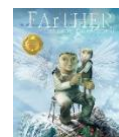
The Year 4 Team

Phase Leader: Mr Bate

Class 4H: Mr Harris

Class 4D: Mr Brazier

Names of other team members: Ms Milne and Mrs Jones



English

Our class reader book will be “The Boy at the Back of the Class” by Onjali Q. Rauf. We will be focusing on a variety of other texts in reading lessons including narratives, letters and poetry to develop comprehension skills and understanding of the features of each text type. In writing lessons, we will be studying various genres including non-fiction: newspaper report (The Creature), narrative (Farther by Grahame Baker-Smith) and non-fiction: persuasive advert (Stroodles: An Alternative to Plastic straws). Throughout all lessons and subjects we will be developing our oracy skills, through paired and group discussion whilst increasing our use of vocabulary and grammatically accurate sentences. We will continue to encourage the use of Nelson Handwriting Style and look forward to awarding more handwriting pens. We would appreciate your support at home by encouraging your child to read daily – either home readers or texts of their choice – and record this in their home school planner.

Maths

In maths, we will be focussing on multiplication and division and length and perimeter. Children will be finding and using factor pairs, learning how to multiply numbers in their heads, multiplying numbers using a formal written method and finding the remainder when a number is divided. By the end of Year 4, it is expected that children should know all times tables up to 12x12. Your child has access to Times Table Rockstars online which is a fun way to learn these calculations. Please encourage your child to read and tell the time at home at every opportunity using an analogue clock (a clock with hands), compare it to digital times in the 12 hour (am/pm) and 24-hour clocks. Knowing the value of money and finding totals to and change from £10 is a very important every day life skill.

Homework

Daily **reading** is expected. Your child will have a book to practise their reading skills. We also recommend reading stories to your child for pleasure. This will help develop your child’s story voice when hearing adults read. We have a list of recommended reads on our website in [‘Our Learning > Year Group Page > Reading’](#). Books can be borrowed from the local library free of charge. For books online please visit [Storytime Online](#). Children will also be expected to practise their **times tables** (1-12) on [Time Tables Rockstars](#) for a minimum of **25 minutes a week**. [Century Tech](#) online supports children with English, Maths and Science. Some homework may be set on Google Classroom (children will be made aware of this and tasks will be written in their planners).

PE

PE days are on Mondays and Thursdays. On Mondays we will go swimming. On Thursdays, children will be developing a multitude of skills in invasion games, including netball as well as net and wall - tennis and dance. Please make sure your child comes to school in the correct Woodside PE kit that follows our uniform policy. Children will have lessons both indoors and outdoors. Please remove all jewellery on these days.

Science

During this term, we will be learning about electricity and naming the components of a circuit. Children will have to opportunity to carry out practical tasks to develop their working scientifically skills such as making electrical circuits with switches and testing materials that are good electrical conductors and insulators.

Computing

Throughout the year we teach online safety. This term, children will be developing their IT skills writing for different audiences as well as logo computer science. Children have access to Purple Mash at home via [RMUnify](#).

Wider Curriculum Subjects

In geography, we will be studying rivers and the water cycle. In history we will be learning about the Roman Empire and its impact on Britain, In Design Technology we will be studying mechanical systems with levers and linkages. In art, we will be developing our painting skills when painting landscapes. In music, we will be learning about combining elements as well as pulse, groove and improvisation. In RE, we will be studying Hinduism and Judaism. In PSHE, we will be learning about Living in the Wider World – Belonging to a community, media literacy and digital resilience, money and work.

For further details of our curriculum content, please visit the school website [‘Our Learning’](#) section <https://www.woodside.dudley.sch.uk/page/?title=Our+Learning&pid=57>