



Year 4 Summer Term Newsletter

Welcome

Welcome back from all of us in the Year 4 team! We hope that you enjoyed the Easter break and are looking forward to an exciting and very busy summer term ahead, which includes our residential trip to Celtic Harmony from Thursday 14th – Friday 15th May.

Ashwell Learning Journey Topic

Our topic this term is the Stone Age to the Iron Age. This topic will spark lots of curiosity about this period of prehistory: children already have a list of questions they would like to have answered, such as what Stone Age man looked like, what did they eat and how did they communicate. We will also find out about the tools and technology of the period, how homes developed through those Ages and find out more about the everyday lives of the people during that time. We will take a trip to the Ashwell Museum to learn about Arbury Banks and other significant findings in our local area, as well as learning about the village of Skara Brae in Orkney. Alongside this, our trip to Celtic Harmony will certainly bring the learning to life!

Mathematics

Maths lessons will consolidate our learning from the previous two terms as well as covering the following topics: fractions, perimeter and area, 2D and 3D shape, symmetry, angles, coordinates, time, negative numbers, statistics and formal written calculations. There will be a heavier focus this term on problem solving, particularly when covering previous learning units during this year. We will teach the children to choose efficient strategies and ensure the key skills they need to work on will be practised before they begin year 5.

We will also continue to develop confidence and recall of the times tables up to 12 x 12. The Multiplication Tables Check will take place during June 2026.

English

In English this term, we will begin with a Narrative Unit inspired by the book, 'Leon and The Place Between' by Angela McAllister and Graham Baker Smith. In this narrative we will be exploring portal stories with a rise, fall, rise plot line. We will be recapping many of the writing techniques we have studied all year, as well as a focus on speech punctuation.

We will follow this with a Persuasive Letters Unit using two books for inspiration: 'Malala's Magic Pencil' by Malala Yousafzai and Kerascoët and 'Greta and the Giants' by Zoe Tucker and Zoe Persico.

We then hope to manage to squeeze in a final unit on Non-Chronological Reports!

Please continue to read regularly at home with your child. As children move up the reading bands, the texts become more difficult to understand so please do check comprehension, asking children to summarise what they've read or explain the similarities and differences between characters, for example. You can use the comprehension bookmarks that children were given for a list of questions.

We can provide another one of these if required.

Other Core Subjects

Science: This term we will continue our topic about solids, liquids and gasses and then cover further aspects on 'Living things and their Habitats,' with a specific focus on our local area. We will then move on to learning about 'Animals including humans', which explores teeth, digestion and diet. Children will have the opportunity to plan and investigate and draw conclusions from various experiments and tests they will be able to take part in.

MFL: In French, we will be continuing to broaden our vocabulary by looking at classroom objects and commands, and then language to do with 'My Home'.

Computing: The children will begin with a Computational Thinking Unit where they will learn to recognise decomposition, abstraction, algorithm design and pattern recognition as key computational thinking skills. They will then study a unit called Data Handling: Understanding Weather, where they will learn how to research and store data on spreadsheets and present it through a weather report.

PSHCE: Our summer term topic, namely 'Economic Wellbeing', will begin with learning about how we can identify value for money and will lead on to learning about spending influences. This will be followed by our topic on safety and our changing bodies. We will explore the physical changes associated with puberty, specifically, the impact that puberty has on hygiene, and also how we can manage emotional changes.

Music: The term begins with the unit: 'Rock and Roll' where the children will learn the origins and features of rock music, whilst learning the song, 'Rock around the Clock' and how to perform the hand jive! They will then move to a unit called: 'Rivers' where they will study pitch, tempo and dynamics.

RE: We will continue to study Christianity, Sikhism and Hinduism this term, with a focus on justice, fairness, and human responsibilities and values. We will also discuss what we can learn from these religions and key questions that each religion raises.

PE: This term, Premier Sports will be teaching Cricket skills followed by athletics (field focus) and I will be teaching Tennis skills followed by athletics (track focus). Towards the end of the term, we will both prepare the children for Sports Day.

Messages

PE days will continue to be Wednesday and Friday. Library day will be on Wednesday, as usual. Children should have suitable indoor and outdoor clothes in their PE kit, they should bring a water bottle and sun hat every day this term. Sun cream should be applied before children come to school if needed.

Please do make time each weekend to look at our Peek of the Week that we post onto Google Classroom every Friday. It is such a useful document! It contains information on the core learning coming up the next week, including the spelling rule, as well as any specific events taking place.

Regular spelling and times tables practice, with parental support, is vital to help your child make progress.

We are very much looking forward to a jam-packed, exciting term of learning!

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Furr, Miss Allworth and Mrs Hurst