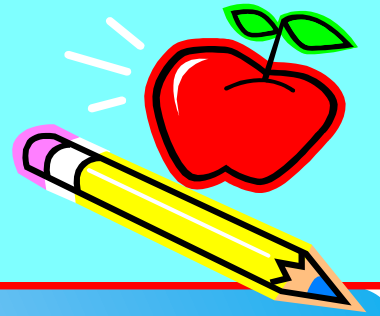


Year 4 Newsletter

Spring Term 2020



Happy New Year!

We hope you all had a relaxing and happy Christmas. Here is some information to help you support your child in school this term.

English

During English this term, we will be continuing to work using our 'Talk for Writing' approach. We will begin the spring term with a narrative unit before moving onto a non-fiction unit of work. We will also be continuing to spend time practicing handwriting skills, supported by the Kinetic Letters program. As before, each Friday a list of ten spellings will be sent home for children to learn for the following week. Any support you can give at home with learning spellings is much appreciated.

Reading

Please continue to read on a daily basis at home. This can be done by your child reading independently or could include your input in questioning around the book, including character's feelings, overviews of chapters/the text and their opinion around the text. Please ensure your child fills in their reading log weekly, which should then be signed by a parent/guardian in order for us to keep track of children's home reading. Please use the codes (A) read to an adult, (L) listened to an adult reading or (I) read independently.

Maths

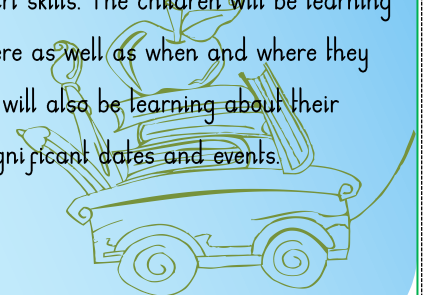
Maths will include developing mental strategies as well as skills in the following areas:

- Multiplication and division
- Measurement
- Fractions
- Decimals

We will also spend time each week practicing multiplication facts in preparation for the 'Multiplication and Division Clubs' system we have in school. Children will continue where they left off in the autumn term and will have their tables test on a Monday morning. Please ensure your child is practicing daily - little and often works best! The expectations of the National Curriculum state that children must be able to recall multiplication and division facts up to 12×12 before the end of Year 4.

Topic

This term our topic is 'The Vikings' and this will incorporate history, geography and art skills. The children will be learning about who the Vikings were as well as when and where they raided and settled. They will also be learning about their culture, longships and significant dates and events.



In **art** we will be continuing to use our cross-hatching skills to show tone and texture and, on art day, will be learning how to create effective artworks using printing.

This term, **D&T** will involve children creating their own pop-up books by selecting appropriate joining techniques as well as using various cutting and shaping techniques.

Music will continue to be taught by a specialist music teacher from Dudley Performing Arts on Tuesday afternoons. Please ensure regular practice is taking place at home throughout the week and that children bring in their instruments every Tuesday.

In **science**, we will be exploring states of matter. This will involve children comparing and grouping materials and conducting experiments relating to their changes of state. Children will also learn about the water cycle and identifying the part played by evaporation and condensation.

During **French** lessons, children will continue to develop vocabulary and phrases through conversation, drama and role-play, focusing this term on asking and telling the time and using numbers up to 60.

PE will continue to take place on Wednesday afternoons this term. Please ensure that PE kits are in school, with pumps and (if possible) trainers, as children will be taking part in tennis practice outdoors after half term. Children may also bring tracksuit bottoms if they wish. Please ensure earrings are removed on Wednesdays in order for your child to take part in PE lessons.

Swimming will take place on Friday afternoons from Friday 17th January up to February half term. Please ensure that all clothes/towels are named, that jewellery is not worn, and that hair is tied back.



In **RE** we will be exploring the religion of Buddhism, including the key teachings and beliefs, main religious figures and artefacts.

Understanding our feelings and how to deal with them is a very important part of growing up. We will share ideas about this through discussion and activities during **PSHE**.

During **Computing** this term, children will be working on programming. They will learn more about algorithms, conditional logic and computational thinking, whilst also learning how to stay safe online.

Home Learning remains the same as last term, with children expected to practice their multiplication tables and division facts each day, use 'DoodleMaths' and 'DoodleTables' regularly, and read at least three times a week. Children also have their list of ten spellings each week to learn. The children will benefit most when home and school work together, so please support your children in making the most of their learning.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any problems or concerns. I am available most days after school or can be contacted via email at r.johnson@ridge.dudley.sch.uk

I will do my best to help, and thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Johnson

