



St. Mary's Church of England Primary School

Endurance ~ Compassion ~ Thankfulness

Year 4: Half Termly Letter to Parents

Autumn Term 1, September 2020

Dear parents and carers,

I have already welcomed you to Year 4 in my PACT email sent home in the 1st week back to school and therefore would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for supporting the school in bringing the children back safely and calmly. The children of Year 4 have been a huge credit to you all and I have enjoyed teaching the class in these first few weeks as we all try to settle back and figure out the new school routines. The coronavirus pandemic will continue to restrict our 'normal' school life and if you are interested in looking at how the school is managing this you should read our return to school risk assessment located on our school website here:

<http://www.stmarysschoolputney.co.uk/coronavirus-information/>



The Year 4 Team

Our Year 4 team this year is:

Mr M Lett - full-time class teacher

Miss Donlon - teaching assistant (mornings only)

The Curriculum

As we return to school our key priority is the well-being of the children and as we work to 'plug the gaps' in any missed education we will suitably amend parts of the curriculum - known as a recovery curriculum. Below is an outline of the Year 4 recovery curriculum for this half-term:

PSHE

The class will begin the recovery curriculum through a programme of lessons which will focus on the following: respecting personal space (e.g. social distancing); respect for hygiene (e.g. hand washing); belonging and feeling safe at school; reconnecting with friends; the coronavirus explained; managing worries, fears and anxieties; being positive and looking forward to learning; gratitude and appreciation; loss and bereavement.

English

We will be reading the *Power of Reading* text 'Varjak Paw' by SF Said. The class will look closely at the descriptions of characters and settings in this text. They will be writing recounts and explanations. Grammar and punctuation will be taught with a focus on parts of speech - nouns, verbs and adjectives. Guided reading sessions will switch to whole class sessions and focus on the text 'Charlotte's Web' by EB White.

At the start of the term your child was given a spelling card with details of the half term's weekly spellings. Please ensure that your child practices the weekly spellings daily.

Maths

The class will begin the term with 'place value (4-digit numbers)' and 'addition and subtraction'. This will include rounding, counting, using number lines, roman numerals, comparing numbers, ordering numbers, negative numbers, adding two 4-digit numbers, subtracting two 4-digit numbers, estimating answers, checking strategies and problem solving. Some key learning from Year 3 that may have been missed will be revisited to ensure the gaps are filled.

During Year 4 we aim for all children to be fluent with their times tables up to 12x12. The DfE (Department for Education) will require all schools in England to administer a brand new test to determine whether Year 4 pupils can recall their multiplication tables fluently. This test is expected to take place in June and will be called the Multiplication Tables Check or MTC for short. To ensure the children will do well in this test we will start the year revising tables and testing every Friday - so do please keep practicing tables with your child - in and out of order!

RE

This half term the class will be focusing on the topic "How did Belief in God Affect the Actions of People in the Old Testament?" The class shall look in particular at the stories of Solomon, Jonah, Daniel, Ruth, Moses and Abraham, and consider the importance their belief in God made in the difficult decisions they had to make.

Computing

In Computing the children will review how to keep themselves safe online - going over the SMART rules and Acceptable Use Policy (AUP).

Other subjects

We will complement our recovery curriculum with lessons in the following areas:

Art and Design

Music

French

PE

Once we have completed our recovery curriculum we may also begin our History topic on 'Temple, Tombs and Treasures'.

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD'S PE KIT (AND SUITABLE FOOTWEAR - TRAINERS FOR OUTDOORS) IS IN SCHOOL ON TUESDAYS - LABELLED CLEARLY.

Please note that for the moment your child will be required to wear their PE kit to school on Tuesday's. We will not be able to facilitate changing in school.

YEAR 4 HOME LEARNING

Maths and English (including Guided Reading) weekly home learning will be sent out every FRIDAY and should be returned the following WEDNESDAY. Each task should take on average 30-40 minutes.

Spellings: Spelling cards will be given out at the start of each half term. Weekly spellings set on Monday and tested on Friday.

Times Tables: Please practice regularly for a test every Friday.

Reading: Daily - to be listened to by an adult for at least 10 minutes each morning or evening - if possible.

Communication

If you have any queries about the daily routine or what your child is learning, or perhaps to inform us of other matters relating to your child, then do not hesitate to get in touch with any member of the Year 4 team. As always the best way to do this is through the use of your child's PACT. The PACT e-mail is a great tool for communication between home and school, so please do not hesitate in using it.

The address is: Class2016@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk

Keep in the loop with social media

The school actively uses two social media platforms to communicate school news and events, so please check them out and follow us:

Twitter <https://twitter.com/PutneySMPS> Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PutneySMPS/>

All the best for the term ahead and remain safe!

Kindest regards,

Mr Lett and Miss Donlon