



St. Mary's Church of England Primary School

Endurance ~ Compassion ~ Thankfulness



Year 4: Half-Termly Letter to Parents

Autumn Term 2, November 2020

Dear parents and carers,

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support. The class have been doing great and I pray that we all continue to stay safe and well at this time.

Unfortunately, we are still restricted in many aspects of school life, but this has certainly not halted our efforts and determination to enjoy what we can. I have loved teaching your children so far and I am optimistic that all of the children will continue to progress and develop their knowledge, skills and understanding.



The Year 4 Team

Mr M Lett - full-time class teacher

Mrs I Ford - teaching assistant (mornings only)

The Curriculum

Below is an outline of the scheduled Year 4 curriculum for this half-term:

English

We will continue reading the *Power of Reading* text '**Varjak Paw**' by SF Said. The children have been thoroughly enjoying this book. We will focus on writing recounts such as newspaper reports and diary entries. The features of explanation texts will then be examined. The grammar and punctuation focus for this half term will be on the use of adjectives, subjects and verbs, and nouns (singular and plural). Neat joined handwriting will be encouraged in independent writing and the children will be expected to increase the fluency of their handwriting. Whole class guided reading sessions will continue to be facilitated through the text '**Charlotte's Web**' by EB White.

Maths

Year 4 will continue mastering maths by exploring and developing their skills in the topics of '**addition and subtraction**', '**measurement: perimeter**' and '**multiplication and division**'. This will include adding two 4-digit numbers, subtracting two 4-digit numbers, estimating answers, checking strategies and problem solving, finding the perimeter of a rectangle, finding the perimeter of rectilinear shapes, multiplying and dividing by multiples of 10 and 100, multiplying by 0 and 1, dividing by 1, multiplying and dividing by 6, 9 and 7, looking at the 11 and 12 times tables.

RE

In our topic **Why is Remembrance Important?** We shall reflect upon the reasons it is important to remember the two World Wars and other conflicts, and consider the importance of Remembrance in promoting Peace. Our Christmas topic asks the question "**Is Peace the Most Important Message of Christmas?**" We shall be thinking about what exactly Peace is, how we find Peace within ourselves, what the Bible tells us about Peace and how the Church lives out its message of Peace - especially at Christmas time.

PSHE

Now that we have completed our recovery curriculum, we will look at the topic **Being Me in My World**, which focuses on becoming a class team and a school citizen. The next theme is **Celebrating Difference** which explores the ideas of accepting that everyone is different.

Computing

In computing the children will familiarise themselves with using our digital learning platform - **Microsoft Teams**.

History

For the **Temple, Tombs and Treasures** unit of work the children will be finding out about the daily life of the Ancient Egyptians; how to write using hieroglyphics; Egyptian religion, sacrifice and burials; finding out about the different rulers of Egypt; exploring how the pyramids may have been built; using sources to find out about Ancient Sumer; and comparing life in Ancient Sumer with life in Ancient Egypt.

Science

Later this half-term the **Shake It** unit of work will begin and the class will be finding out about solids, liquids and gases. This will be explored through the separation and changing of materials and the class will look at how we can change milk into a solid; what happens when butter is heated; about the behaviour of gases in liquids; which solids will dissolve in a liquid; and about the science of making milkshakes. All very exciting!

Music

Lessons taught by Mrs Le Prevost: this half term the class will be completing their project on creating a spooky theme through music and then move on to our theme for this half term which is recycling, to link in with the class's topic 'Shake It'. Using junk items, we will be creating our own instruments, exploring the different sounds we can make with them, then using them to improvise, compose and play junk jazz music in a variety of musical structures.

Art and Design

Lessons taught by Mrs Adams: this half term the class will work on creative art projects linked to the topic on 'Temples, Tombs and Treasures'.

French

Taught by Madam Claudine.

PE

Lessons taught by Coach V: **Dance** - moves and exercise to music; moving to count 4/8/16/32; this will allow and encourage children's broad imagination, creativity and increase their confidence in acting and theatrical abilities. **Tag rugby** - passing, receiving, defending and attacking skills; understanding the rules of the game and game scenario; using team work approach, space awareness and respect of other players; children will be learning all skills associated with effective passing, movement and change of direction and speed.

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

Please note that presently 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 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

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

Kindest regards,
Mr Lett and Mrs Ford

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