



Year 4 Spring Term 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a relaxing holiday. I am looking forward to the term where the days become longer and hopefully the weather will improve.

Below is an overview of what we have to look forward to this half term:

In history we are exploring the topic of 'Anglo-Saxon Britain'. This is an exciting topic where we investigate the reasons the Anglo-Saxons settled in Britain and what we know about how they lived. We will be continuing to explore using primary and secondary sources.

In English we will be writing a biography of Michelle Obama using the book from the fantastic series 'Little People, Big Minds'. Looking at Michelle Obama will reinforce some knowledge from our Americas topic and link well with our Personal Development topic (formerly PSHE) of Dreams and Goals, as a person to take inspiration from. We will then read The Anglo-Saxon Boy which is a thrilling book, bringing our Anglo-Saxon topic alive.

In science we are undertaking a physics topic looking at states of matter. This will provide some hands on investigations, building upon our scientific skills of enquiry, observation and recording.

This term the maths curriculum will look at multiplication, division and area. Times table skills are crucial for these topics. Children will benefit greatly from regularly using TT Rockstars. It is an expectation that children in Year 4 know their times tables up to 12 and daily TT Rockstars will help support this. **It is important that children aren't simply practising the easier times tables, rather spending their time becoming fluent with the times tables that they are not as familiar with.**

In design and technology, we will be looking at electrical circuits and will be designing our own torches. This will be great pre-learning for our Science electricity topic which will come later in the year.

We will be continuing learning French looking at expanding the children's knowledge of grammar and vocabulary. In computing the children will be developing their skills of programming using Scratch. R.E. will focus on the festival of Passover and the religion of Judaism.

P.E. will be on Tuesdays and Fridays with the great opportunity of the sports coach continuing to teach us on Fridays. The sports this half term are hockey and basketball. We will be outside as far as the weather allows, so please ensure a warm P.E. kit and suitable shoes are brought to school.

We are so lucky that the children have Forest School this term. They will be outside in Forest School on Wednesday afternoons and therefore will need warm clothes which you don't mind getting dirty. A waterproof coat will be needed. If children have waterproof trousers they can bring these, but they will be provided if not. If children can bring wellies, that would be the most suitable footwear. The children will be outside no matter what the weather.

It is still an expectation that children read at least 5 times a week (either independently or to an adult). We will be monitoring reading diaries regularly. School reading books and diaries need to be in school every day. We place such an emphasis on reading with our use of the school library and visits to Wollaton library, so support at home is appreciated.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me by Class Dojo.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Hebbs

Class 4 Teacher