

Year 4, Autumn Term 2, Newsletter



Key Dates

Monday 30th October: Lunchtime auditions for school play, 'The Magical Christmas Jigsaw'

Monday 13th November: Odd Sock Day for Anti-bullying week

Wednesday 15th November: Girl's Football Tournament at Wedmore (details to follow)

Friday 17th November: Children in Need

Tuesday 21st November: Individual and sibling photos

Friday 24th November: Mufti for Art Explosion Day

Tuesday 28th November: Whole school play rehearsal (am)

Wednesday 29th November: Dress rehearsal for play (am)

Wednesday 29th November: After school Gymnastics experience at HSMS - squad of 8, details to follow.

Friday 1st December: Class Christmas Bake Off (details to follow)

Friday 1st December: Christmas fayre

Monday 4th December: Christmas play performance 1, 1.45pm

Tuesday 5th December: Christmas play performance 2, 1.45pm

Wednesday 6th December: Christmas play performance 3, 1.45pm

Wednesday 6th December: No swimming today

Thursday 7th December: Christmas play performance to local nurseries, 10am

Thursday 7th December: Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 11th December: KS2 Christmas party, pm

Tuesday 12th December: Children's Christmas lunch

Friday 15th December: Whole School carol service, 9.30am

Friday 15th December: School break up for Christmas holidays

Dear Year 4 Parents,

Welcome back after the half term break. My favourite term of all – full of the magic and wonder of Christmas! Here is this term's curriculum overview:

English

This half term, the children will be focussing on A Warning Story text. Through 'Talk For Writing', they will learn about different features that 'a warning story' is composed of. We will look at the three stage model of Talk For Writing - immersing and imitating a high quality text called, 'On the Tracks'. During the Invent stage, the children will be introduced to a beautiful book, 'Escape From Pompeii' and they will go onto write their own warning story based on this. Time permitting, we will finish the term with some performance poetry focussed on the glorious poem, 'Twas the Night Before Christmas'.

Alongside these units, the children will be leading our whole school Christmas play, 'The Magical Christmas Jigsaw', which every Year 4 children will be involved in. Auditions will take place during the first lunchtime and rehearsals will begin almost immediately. The children will be coming home with a copy of their script by the end of the week, and I would really appreciate it if you could encourage your child to practise their lines/ acting at home as well as school, to ensure they are all confident and so it is the very best it can be. More information about the play will be sent out soon.

Maths

For the majority of this term, we will be focussing on securing our knowledge and understanding of place value and numbers in the thousands. We will practise using dienes, tens frames, place value counters, part whole grids and place value grids to show different representations of numbers. We will then be moving onto looking at perimeter of lines and shapes.

This term, in class, we will continue to do an additional 30 minutes of mental maths most days, which will include practising the quick recall of times tables and having a secure understanding of other basic number facts to ensure the children have a secure foundation which is fundamental for all areas of maths. Children will also continue to complete sections of their focussed timestable booklets, directed at particular numbers, initially continuing with the 3 timestables. By the end of year 4, children should be secure in their recall of the times tables facts up to 12x12, so please also encourage this at home through the use of games such as TT Rockstars.

Put the caption for your photo here.

History

Our Roman history topic will finally conclude with an award ceremony to celebrate the incredible work the children have created as a part of their extended homework topic projects. In addition to this, you, the parents and carers, will be invited to come into our classroom and see the incredible art work exhibited. Thank you again for the time and support you all gave to this - the classroom is bursting with creative topic work, which is fantastic!

Geography

This term's Geography topic will be, 'Why do so many British people go to the Mediterranean for their holidays?' During this topic, the children will focus on the following key questions: Where exactly is the Mediterranean? Which countries border the Mediterranean Sea and what do we know about? How do the human and physical features of the UK differ from those of Mediterranean countries? How can we compare and contrast a Mediterranean holiday resort with one in the UK? and What is Brexit and why is it important to know about it? They will do this through a variety of map work, group research and debating.

Science

We will be studying 'How Living Things are Grouped' this half term in Science. The children will learn how to create classification keys to group different animals, plants and trees. They will learn different ways to identify and classify these species and will be given the opportunity to explore our school grounds to identify local trees, plants and species in our own environment.

RE

The RE focus this half term is predominately learning about Christmas and the importance of this to Christians. As well as during RE lessons, the children will be learning about this through our whole school play, which the Year Four's will take a leading role in. Our Christian value for this half term is kindness and compassion.

PSHE

Our Jigsaw focus is 'celebrating differences' and understanding how to value our uniqueness.

PE

PE sessions are still every Thursday with Mr Coggins. This term's PE focus is football to develop specific skills and the importance of team-work. Please continue to send the children in their correct kit, including warm trousers and jumpers as the weather is getting colder. In addition to this, we will continue to swim at Kings of Wessex Leisure Centre every Wednesday this half term, with the exception of **Wednesday 6th December** as we will be performing our play.



We are really looking forward to an exciting half term together and have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the children over the past term!

Thank you for your continued support and best wishes,

Mrs Hael and Mrs Keedwell

Art/ DT

Our exciting school Art explosion day will take place on **Friday 24th November**. For those who have not experienced this before, it is an opportunity for the whole school to take part in a variety of Christmas art decorations which will result in our school hall being decorated ready for Christmas - it is a very special day and one that the children thoroughly enjoy.

To remember 5th November, the children will be creating firework paintings using oil pastels.

In addition, we will soon be busy making props and scenery for the play. Towards the end of term, the children will also be learning to blanket stitch so they can make a Christmas tree decoration - a lovely keepsake to cherish. There will be plenty of art/DT opportunities throughout the term.

Homework

Homework is still sent out every Friday and needs to be returned the following Wednesday in order for me to mark and send back out again. Please send a message on Class Dojo if you need any clarification regarding the homework. The homework consists of Spellings and Maths and this term, practising their play lines. We also encourage that children are returning their home readers every Friday and reading regularly at home. Please keep up the joy of reading.