



Half Autumn 2
Half Term Information for Parents
Years 3 and 4

Happy children aiming high

Dear Parents and Carers,

The first term this year was a great success. The children in both year groups have settled into their respective classes very well. The following half term will be driven by Art (Who's Behind You?): the children will be participating in plays, music performances and will visit a pantomime. This half term will see the performance of our Christmas nativity which the children and staff are very much looking forward to. Furthermore, I would like to take this opportunity to mention that should you have any queries, please feel free to speak to either myself or Mr Benefield. We are both more than happy to help you in any way. I would also like to ask that if possible can the children avoid bringing large rucksacks into school as often these aren't needed as the children only have a packed lunch inside with a book; both of which can be stored in their respective trolleys and trays. This will hopefully prevent tripping hazards and free up more space in the cloakrooms and classrooms.

Kind Regards,
Mr Dey
Phase Leader (Years 3 and 4)

Themes: Autumn 2 – *Who's Behind You?*

Cross curricular links (Year 3)

English: We will be learning to create our own twist on Traditional Tales and stories from around the world. This will provide the opportunity for the children to use their artistic flair in order to create story maps, transitioning these into imaginative and well planned stories. Following this, children will be taught how to edit and improve their writing, subsequently making it better through learning key aspects of grammar and punctuation for example. What's more there will be plenty of reading opportunities along with the chance to perform written play scripts. Years 3 and 4 will be coming together at times to create shared pieces of writing as a phase. The emphasis will be on team work and sharing knowledge.

Art: Children will be creating pieces of Art relating to their creative stories. Additionally, props will be designed for their stories as well as our KS2 Christmas production. We will also be learning about famous artists and their relevance to the theatre.

RE: On the 7th of November it will be Diwali and we will learn about this importance time. Furthermore, as you already know, we will be preparing for our importance KS2 Nativity performance and will subsequently learn about Christianity and the creation story. We will also learn about different cultures and their creation stories.

Music: The children will learn, practise and perform songs in preparation for our Christmas performance. We will also learn some Christmas carols. Additionally, the children will have the opportunity to learn to play instruments and use these during our Christmas performance.

History: An exciting chance to study a local history project; we will be focusing on the role of the theatre in the North East. Narrowing our learning down to a study of the Theatre Royal. Looking at its importance, how it was established, individuals who might have performed there as well as exploring change and continuity between then and now.

Cross curricular links (Year 4)

English: We will be learning to create our own twist on Traditional Tales and stories from around the world. This will provide the opportunity for the children to use their artistic flair in order to create story maps, transitioning these into imaginative and well planned stories. Following this, children will be taught how to edit and improve their writing, subsequently making it better through learning key aspects of grammar and punctuation for example. What's more there will be plenty of reading opportunities along with the chance to perform written play scripts. Years 3 and 4 will be coming together at times to create shared pieces of writing as a phase. The emphasis will be on team work and sharing knowledge. Additionally, we will be reading Wickworth Manor (available on schools 360 as an eBook free of charge).

Art: Children will be creating pieces of Art relating to their creative stories. Additionally, props will be designed for their stories as well as our KS2 Christmas production. We will also be learning about famous artists and their relevance to the theatre.

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Subjects being taught separately this half term (Year 3)

Maths: We will be learning about Addition and Subtraction as well as developing their ability to use Multiplication and Division.

Science: We will be completing some work on forces and magnets. We will look at how magnetism works and magnetic materials. Look out for our Class Assembly on this subject on Friday 23rd November!

PE: We will continue to go to Astley for our PE and swimming sessions. The groups will be reversed this half term. Christmas nativity will provide ample opportunities for children to dance and choreograph routines along with music.

French: The children will learn to develop their conversational skills via some new topics: transport, direction and movement.

Computing: Children will be able to access Schools 360 as well as Mathletics. We will also continue to teach children how to select, use and combine a variety of software (including internet services) on a range of digital devices to design and create a range of programs, systems and content.

Subjects being taught separately this half term (Year 4)

Maths: We will be learning about Measurement and Length as well as studying Multiplication and Division.

Science: We will be learning about sound; We will learn about how vibrations cause sound and how sounds travel, as well as how sounds can change pitch and loudness. The children will learn about how sounds are made, carrying out demonstrations of vibrations, and completing a sound survey of their school.

PE: Christmas nativity will provide ample opportunities for children to dance and choreograph routines along with music.

French: The children will learn to develop their conversational skills via some new topics: transport, direction and movement. They will learn to conjugate the high-frequency verb 'to go' and use it in context.

Computing: Children will be able to access Schools 360 as well as Mathletics. We will also continue to teach children how to select, use and combine a variety of software (including internet services) on a range of digital devices to design and create a range of programs, systems and content.

How can you help?

- Access to Schools 360 at home for times tables practise and other useful software; encyclopaedia, J2E write and computing programming.
- Access to Mathletics in order for the children to consolidate learned knowledge.
- Frequent reading at home and where possible reading to your child.
- Where possible discuss school with your child – ask them what they have been learning about.
- Practise of the Key Words for their year group.
- Online programmes like CBBC Newsround help your child to develop a better worldview.

Homework

Year 3 and 4 – both classes will now use the grid approach – offering you the chance to choose your preferred homework options.

The homework we set will be related to our topic and will benefit the children in their learning journey. The homework will be discussed in class and will be aimed at complementing the work completed and giving children a sense of pride in their efforts. Some activities will be research based; others will focus on completing posters, small pieces of writing or simply free choice tasks.

Class Reminders

PE may on occasions be completed on different days; however, please can we leave PE kit in school.

PE: Y3 – Wednesday PM; Swimming and PE will continue on the Friday PM each week.

PE: Y4 – Wednesday PM and Thursday PM