



Happy children aiming high

Autumn 2 Half Term Information for Parents Year 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

This information sheet tells you about the theme being followed for this half term and which subjects are being linked to it and those which will be taught separately. We hope that you find it useful.

Themes: Autumn 2 – 'All the World's a Stage'

Cross curricular links:

English: The children will be provided with a variety of reading and writing opportunities linked to our Theatre topic. We will use the play 'Macbeth' by Shakespeare as a stimulus for writing. The children will be given many opportunities to write in a range of styles. These will include poetry, a play script, a letter and character descriptions. With a link to our Art lessons, children will also study a unit of work based on 'Aladdin and the Enchanted Lamp', written by Phillip Pullman. Children will be taught spelling, punctuation and grammar alongside their English lessons and will be given the opportunity to apply their knowledge within their extended pieces of writing.

History – 'Torturous Tudors': Children will explore many aspects of life during the Tudor age, looking at: Tudor dress, Tudor houses, crime and punishment, the wives of Henry VIII, the monarchy and the battle of Bosworth. They will continue to develop chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British history and will gain an understanding of how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources.

Art: This half term, the children will be producing art work for The People's Theatre in Heaton. Art work will be displayed in the main foyer to promote the theatre's Christmas pantomime, 'Aladdin'.

Music: Children will perform in an ensemble context, using their voices expressively and creatively whilst practising for the Christmas performance. Children will learn a number of new songs whilst also practising well known carols and hymns.

Subjects being taught separately this half term:

Computing: In our computing lessons, the children will learn how to write computer programmes, using the computer programme 'Scratch'. They will design, write and debug programmes that accomplish specific goals, solving problems by decomposing them into smaller parts. They will begin to use sequence, selection and repetition while controlling their own animated character.

PE: Children will explore shape and movement in gymnastics, creating short sequences developing control and co-ordination. In hockey, children will learn to pass, receive and travel with the ball with some control and accuracy; how to win the ball back by tackling and intercepting and will begin to use and create space to pass and receive the ball.

Maths: Children will continue to practise multiplication tables, in particular the 7,8,9 and 11 times tables. They will learn to use number facts to multiply and divide mentally and will use factor pairs (e.g. $2 \times 3 = 6$: $3 \times 2 = 6$) to solve multiplication and division calculations mentally. Children will be taught a formal written method for multiplication and will use this to multiply two-digit and three-digit numbers by a one-digit number. They will continue to develop their confidence in solving maths problems in a range of contexts, explaining their reasoning clearly.

PSCHE: (to be taught by Miss Pickering) Getting on and falling out (centred around Anti-bullying week w/c 13.11.17).

RE: (to be taught by Miss Pickering) This half term will focus on festivals and celebrations, particularly

Christmas.

How can you help?

- Ensure your child is in school on time and ready to learn.
- Support your child in becoming independent and accountable for their own learning, taking responsibility themselves for ensuring that they have everything they need. This includes having all the equipment they need for the day, such as PE kit, reading book and reading record.
- Practise the year 3/4 spelling list as well as the high frequency words. Can your child read and spell them? Can they use them in a sentence?
- Complete homework activities with your child.
- Share your child's school reading book with them, questioning children on characters' feelings, motives and actions. Can they use evidence in the book to support their answer? As children become more independent in their reading, you may wish to allow your child to read independently and then question them on their understanding of the content.
- Practise mental maths including times tables (6, 7 and 9 in year 4); discuss money, time and measures with real examples.
- Encourage your child to tell you what they have been learning about at school and where possible, extend their learning at home, through books, outings, discussions and the internet.
- Please check your child's book bag frequently for letters and other information.
- If you have any interesting topic related artefacts that your child could share for a display or discussion, please bring them into school.

Homework

Children will receive a creative homework grid, detailing a range of different activities for children to choose from. All of these activities are linked to our current topic and will help enhance and enrich your child's learning.

Class Reminders

PE: Y4 – Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning

Please ensure PE kits are in school on all school days to ensure it is available for any extra PE sessions. As the colder weather approaches, you may wish to include long trousers and a warm hoody/sweatshirt as part of your child's PE kit. Reading books and records must be in school every day.