



Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year 4

Spring 1st Half Term: January 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! Thank you for all your lovely gifts and cards. We hope that you had a relaxing Christmas and that your children are looking forward to the new term in Year 4.

We will start the term with our topic 'Inspirational People'. We will think about what makes someone an inspiration to others and what common values these people share. Our learning will focus specifically on Chanda Vyas, the first female Hindu priest in the United Kingdom.

In our **Science** topic 'In a State', we will learn about solids, liquids and gases. We will explore what happens to materials when they are heated and cooled and learn about evaporation and condensation and the water cycle. In **Geography**, we will be learning about, and comparing cities in North and South America. We will also develop our map reading skills and learn the difference between continents, countries, states and cities. In **Art**, the children will develop their skills and create a display related to our R.E. topic of Hinduism.

In **English**, we will use a short film titled 'The Lighthouse' to explore characters and settings and the children will develop their descriptive writing and diary writing skills. There will continue to be a focus on learning grammar and punctuation skills, including fronted adverbials, conjunctions and the use of paragraphs. This term, spellings will focus on homophones, words ending in -ture and words from the Year 3 / 4 spelling list. In addition, we will continue daily reading, comprehension activities and handwriting practice.

During **Maths** sessions, we will be learning how to add and subtract three and four digit numbers both mentally and using written methods. We will also learn about angles, shape, fractions and multiplication and division problems. Times tables will continue to be a very important part of your child's learning as they are used in so many areas of maths.

In **RE** we will be learning about Hinduism. We will learn about what happens during the festival of Diwali and discuss whether the celebrations at home and in the community bring a sense of belonging to Hindus.

Computing will provide the children with opportunities to create a simple animation that includes adding a condition to a program and using and testing coordinates.

Our **PE** sessions on Mondays and Thursdays will continue to be led by our professional sports coach. The focus will be Tag Rugby this half term. Please ensure children have their full PE kits (all named please) in school every day.

Home learning for this term is as follows:

- Home-learning folders will continue to be sent home on Friday and are to be handed in on the following Tuesday. Please ensure children complete all home-learning. Weekly homework will include a Maths activity, an English or Topic activity and some spellings. A spelling test will take place on a Monday.
- Children should continue to read on a daily basis at home; it is extremely valuable for children to read a range of texts with parents and carers, sharing and discussing thoughts and ideas.
- Encouraging your child to practise their times tables on a regular basis will help many areas of their mathematical learning. A times tables test will take place on a Thursday and your child will be aware of the times table they should be practising. Practical activities, such as counting out money at the shops, reading train/bus timetables, telling the time and measuring ingredients when cooking will also help your child develop mathematical skills.

**If you have any questions, concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Year 4 team.
Many thanks for your support.**

Class teachers: Mrs Sarah Prados and Mrs Julia Oliver

Date: January 2019