



Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year 4

Autumn 2nd Half Term: November 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you had an enjoyable break and your children are looking forward to the second half of the Autumn Term in Year 4.

Our main topic will start with a **History** focus about the Romans. We will learn about how different information sources are used to tell us more about the past. We will learn about some of the reasons behind the Roman invasion and opposition to Roman rule. Also, we will consider what life was like for different people during Roman times.

During the latter half of the term, our **Science** topic will be electricity. We will learn how to make a circuit including how to make a bulb light. We will investigate the role of a switch in a circuit and also learn about conductors and insulators.

In **English**, we will start by exploring Shakespeare's play 'Hamlet' and will use this classic text to explore characters, setting, key language and viewpoints. The children will develop their newspaper report, diary, narrative and descriptive writing skills during this unit. Towards the end of the term, we will be looking at explanation texts and writing our own linked to our Science topic. There will continue to be a focus on learning grammar and punctuation skills, including using conjunctions, fronted adverbials and prepositions. This term, spellings will include prefixes 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 about fractions, decimals, measuring and converting grams and kilograms and millimetres and centimetres. We will also be rounding 4-digit numbers, subtracting 3-digit numbers and multiplying and dividing. Times tables will continue to be a very important part of your child's learning.

In **RE** we will be learning about the meaning of Christmas. The children will explore symbolism in the Christmas story and will learn about what different parts of the Nativity mean to Christians.

Computing will provide the children with opportunities to design and create their own electronic mini-books using the program 'Picture Book Maker'. The focus of these will be linked to our RE lessons.

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

Exciting News!

- We are looking forward to our theatre visit to The Wylllyotts in Potters Bar this Friday 3rd November to see 'Hamlet'.
- Parent consultations will take place during the week beginning 6th November 2017.
- We will look forward to the exciting lead up to Christmas, including performing in our Junior production!

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. Please note that with effect from this term, the weekly spelling test will now 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. 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.**