



Harvey Road School

Class 4

Spring 2017

Happy New Year!

I hope you have all had a restful Christmas break, thank you very much for my wonderful Christmas presents! We are looking forward to a new term, if you have any questions about what is to come between now and Easter, please feel free to pop in and see me.

Essential information

Homework – Each week I will be sending home a piece of homework using a three-weekly rotation of maths, grammar and comprehension. **This** will be given on a Thursday to be completed and handed in on the following Tuesday. If there are any problems with homework, children have the opportunity to ask for further help at school on Friday or Monday, if they need it. On a Friday we will fill in homework diaries with any important information and upcoming events for the following week. Homework diaries must be in school every day and should be signed by parents over the weekend ready for Tuesday.

Reading – Pupils should be reading with an adult at home every weekday, even if they are a “free-reader”. It is important to read with an adult, even if only for a few minutes, so that unfamiliar words/phrases can be discussed and children can practice reading out loud with flow and expression. Please make note in your child’s homework diary what page they have read up to each day and sign next to it. These are checked daily.

Spellings – Dictation tests will continue to be on a Friday. The children will be given their new sentences in the back of their diaries and will have until the following Friday to learn them.

Times tables- There will be a weekly times table and division test on a Wednesday.

PPA- Mrs Edmunds will continue to be providing PPA cover and will teach RE, Music and French on Thursday mornings.

English

Children will be reading at school regularly, either individually, with an adult or as part of a class shared reading activity. It is also really important for you to listen to your child read at home on a daily basis and to ask them questions about what they have read to reinforce their understanding of a text and grasp of new vocabulary. Grammar activities will be done in class and the children will bring home grammar activities as their homework. Spellings will continue to be a focus and there is a weekly test, on a Friday.

This term we are focusing on a narrative unit with the Roald Dahl book "Danny the Champion of the World" at the centre. We will be discussing the issues and dilemmas this book raises and using drama to help us understand characters better. Later in the term we will also look at different forms of poetry and how to create imagery, and finally writing persuasive texts based on real-world issues.

Maths

Fractions including decimals - We will be exploring the value of hundredths and writing the decimal equivalent of any number of tenths and hundredths. We will be comparing and ordering fractions with the same denominator. We will also be comparing and ordering decimal numbers and rounding decimals to the nearest whole number.

Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division - We will be focusing on the formal written methods for addition and subtraction and using these calculations to solve two step problems. Children will work on consolidating their understanding of multiplication and division of all tables up to 12 x 12. Children will be multiplying by 1, 0 and multiplying 3 numbers together.

Measurement - We will be calculating the perimeter and areas of rectilinear shapes, converting between different units of measure (time, length, weight) and learn how to use the correct decimal notation. Children will read, write and convert time between analogue and digital 12 and 24 hour clocks. We will be solving problems converting between different units of time, e.g. from minutes to seconds or from weeks to days.

Statistics - We will be interpreting and presenting discrete and continuous data using a range of graphs including time graphs.

Science

Animal including humans This topic has been carried over from last term to finish off, we will be comparing the teeth and bones of animals and humans and linking them to food chains and how they are adapted to what they eat.

States of Matter We will start this term by looking at and identifying solids, liquids and gases. We will investigate how materials can change state when heated or cooled and use thermometers to measure temperature.

Sound We will be looking at how sounds are made and looking for patterns in our investigations.

Geography

Mountains This topic is continued from last term, we will be looking at how mountains are formed and how weather and the water system are impacted by the shape of the ground.

Land Use We will be learning how to sketch and use a map looking particularly at our local area and how human features are represented.

D&T

Cookery We will plan, design, cook and evaluate different dishes that are linked to our RE topic of sharing food for worship.

Art

Collage We are looking at how collage can be used as an artistic technique to create beautiful pieces of art inspired by known Artists.

Digital Media The children will discover how different types of artwork can be created digitally with a focus on the manipulation of images.

Music

In music this term we will have the opportunity to compose and perform music inspired by our local community, past and present, focusing on metre.

After half term we will be linking music to our science topic on sound. We will look at ways that sounds are produced and classified.

PE

Games In preparation for the Footnets competition, we will be practicing our hockey skills.

Gym We will explore different ways of travelling and balancing using the equipment.

Dance We will be planning, performing and reviewing dance sequences with the theme of linked with different dance styles from around the world.

ICT

Programming and games We will be exploring how programming is used in areas of design, simulations and game making. Children will learn how to write algorithms in order to create their own simulations of simple tasks and use programming language to create their own computer games.

RE

Our first topic this term is Sikhism. We will be learning about the beliefs of Sikhs and the importance of the five Ks within the religion. After half term we will be focusing on how food is used as part of religious worship, within different religions.

PHSE

We will be focusing on British Values for the first half term. Then we will discuss the feelings of others and ourselves and explore how our actions can affect feelings. We will also be discussing ways that we can keep safe and healthy, including in relation to drugs and alcohol.

French

Our focus will be on telling stories. The children will have the opportunity to read, tell and write their own stories. We will also be learning about some French festivals that take place at this time of year.