

Westfields

JUNIOR SCHOOL

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UNITE - INSPIRE - EXCEL

20th April 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you all had an enjoyable Easter break and are refreshed, ready for the Summer Term ahead. In this letter, you will receive some key reminders and the topic web to show what the focus of our learning will be this term. It hardly seems like any time at all since the children were starting in Year 4 and as we enter our final term, we are all certainly excited to see the children become more independent as they prepare for Year 5. There are many exciting opportunities this term, including our much anticipated River Wey trip and residential visit to Ufton Court – let's just hope the weather stays on our side!

Mental maths fluency has been a huge focus this last term and lots of the children have made good progress towards their certificates or have achieved these. It is vital that the children continue to take the time to practice their fluency and times tables facts regularly, ready for their test each week, to help them apply these facts quickly and accurately to their learning in our maths lessons. There are a number of children across the year group who are yet to pass their first challenge from September and it would be fantastic to celebrate them passing these this half term. As such, please continue to support your child with their weekly tests and let your child's teacher know if you need any advice or ideas.

Spellings will continue to be set and tested weekly. Many children have been achieving consistently high scores, so please help support us in celebrating your child's successes by checking the highlighted spelling lists in the back of their reading record. The Year 4 spelling lists can also be found on our year group page on the school website.

As you know, reading is the gatekeeper to all learning and we are keen for children to progress to free reader status by the end of Year 4. To support this, please ensure your child is reading as often as five times per week ideally and writing relevant comments in their reading records. To really challenge the children as free readers, please remember it is important they read a range of age appropriate texts. This should include fiction, non-fiction (reports, newspapers, explanation texts) and poetry.

In the summer months, uniform can have a tendency to become more easily separated from its owner! If you could please ensure your child's uniform is labelled clearly, this helps us to help reunite it with its rightful owner when these incidences occur. PE kits should also be fully labelled and in school every day. Despite the fact it is the Summer Term, it is important to make sure your child is prepared for any weather with a tracksuit, socks and ideally a school cap as although there are regular days for PE, there are times when this may change.

Finally, we are always keen to welcome parent (or grandparent!) support within school. If you are able to help in any way on a regular or more 'drop in' basis, then please do get in touch and let us know - for example, coming in to help at 2:45pm before collecting at the end of the day would be a great help.

Kind regards,



Miss E Cornall

Class Teacher
Year 4 Team Leader



Miss H Creelie

Class Teacher



Mrs J Wilson

Class Teacher
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs N Dutton

Class Teacher

 Parental Engagement
Quality Standard



English

Across the Summer Term we will be exploring a range of fiction, poetry and non-fiction texts through reading and writing.

Our fiction writing will focus on understanding character flaw and portal stories. Within each unit, the children will have an opportunity to explore texts within the genre, have opportunities to learn and then adapt the stories and finally plan and write their own texts.

In non-fiction writing, we will be writing explanation texts and discussing how these differ from instructions. If you have any time to explore texts or questions which help your child to understand why or how things happen, this would be incredibly useful.

In guided reading sessions we will continue to explore short extracts and longer texts across a range of fiction and non-fiction genres. We will focus on understanding language choices and effects, inference, summarising and identifying relevant facts from the text to use as evidence.

Spellings will continue to be set weekly and tested each Tuesday.



Maths

During lessons, Year 4 will be developing their understanding of fractions and making links to addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will also solve problems involving fractions and explore decimals in the contexts of money and measurement.

Following on from this, we will be learning about different graph types in statistics, revising and extending our geometry understanding through properties of shape and position and direction



Finally we will be learning about time. It would be extremely helpful if you could help your child to learn to tell the time, using an analogue 12 hour clock and a 24 hour digital clock.

Topic

We have a real historical focus this term and will begin by exploring who the Romans were and how life in Britain was affected by the Roman invasion. The skills focus will centre on the significance of this era through exploring the legacy the Romans left. A large proportion of this will be brought to life during our residential visit to Ufton Court.

Geographical elements of this topic will involve children being able to locate key places using 4 figure grid references and use a range of modern and ancient maps to make comparisons about settlements in Britain.



Science

Our main topic will focus on electricity. This will involve learning about the flow of electricity, sources of energy, electrical conductors and insulators and the importance of a complete circuit. We will also explore opportunities to create and test our own circuits when working scientifically and will be introduced to electrical symbols. We will then apply this understanding to a DT electrical buzzer game project.

We will also be making the most of opportunities to enhance and consolidate the learning across all our science units through further investigations and working scientifically activities.



Computing

This term's internet safety focus is on safe and appropriate use of online gaming. We will also be using algorithms to code a Maths Quiz and using a range of presentation software. Throughout these units we will be exploring the dangers of downloading from internet sites.



PE

In the first half term, we will be developing hand eye co-ordination through tennis and rounders skills in PE. After half term, we will be consolidating this through cricket and then learning and improving our athletic skills.



French

Children will develop questions, learn French songs and show understanding of plural nouns and adjectives. They will also read a range of short texts, develop listening skills and make links to the legacy of the Romans in France.



PSHE

This half term's topic is living in the wider world. Children will learn about how to keep a healthy lifestyle, how rules keep us safe and learn about their human rights including the responsibilities that go with these. There will also be opportunities to discuss rules and duties at home and within school.



Art and DT

In Art, children will use Roman statues to create a large charcoal study and sculpt their own clay Roman statue.

DT will make links to our Science, through the design and evaluation of an electrical buzzer game. We will also be developing and baking our own pasta dish in food technology!



Music

Composition will develop children's ability to read music and play the glockenspiel.



RE

This term's concepts are Hindu Devotion and Symbolism in Religion.

