

Y4 NEWSLETTER

SPRING TERM 2019



Dear Parents / Guardians,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! We hope you enjoyed the Christmas break – the children have enjoyed sharing recounts about their experiences (and presents!) with their classmates. Spring Term brings us World Book Day and Science Week.

We have a class trip planned on Monday 25th March to the Ryedale Folk museum where the children will experience being Victorians for the day.

This term, PE is on Tuesday (gym) and Friday (outdoor sports) afternoons. Friday's PE session is taught in collaboration with specialist teacher Mr Davies. On Thursday morning, Hazel class will be taught by Mrs Beal and Mrs Mills.

We will be engaging in Bollywood Dance for our whole school writing stimulus over Spring Term.

Homework is given out on Friday and due by Thursday. Please regularly practise reading and times tables. Spelling sheets are given out each week. Please practise these as much as possible as those children who practise these more frequently are having greater success.

Our class assembly is on Friday 15th February.

Please find below bullet points for a number of key subjects outlining how you can help your child at home this term.

Kind regards,
Miss Collins

Reading

- Our class book this term is 'Street Child'. The children will build on inference skills considering how characters are feeling, the themes and Victorian setting. To help your child, ask them about the story.
- Listen to your child read at least three times a week.
- Make sure you ask them questions about the text that they are reading. Can they justify the answers that they give by referring to the text or locating the information in the text?
- Help your child to expand their range of vocabulary by exploring the meaning of unfamiliar words. Use them in conversation. Take the opportunity to practise using a dictionary find definitions..

Writing

We will be using Street Child to support our writing development.

- When doing homework, encourage your child to take time and care with the presentation of all their writing. It should be clear, legible, joined, formed correctly and sitting on the line. Lower case letters should be of the same size and have lead-ins.
- Make sure that they punctuate sentences correctly in all their writing.
- Help them to use a dictionary to check the spellings and meanings of words they are writing.
- **Encourage them to proof read all their writing to check that it makes sense and says what they want it to.**

Maths

The children will continue to have a skills-check session on Fridays in smaller groups.

- Help your child to learn by heart their times table facts and the corresponding division facts. They should be able to answer these in any order. Eg $4 \times 5 = 20$ $5 \times 4 = 20$ 20 divided by $4 = 5$ 20 divided by $5 = 4$
- Practise written calculation methods for addition, subtraction and multiplication and begin to use written methods for division. If you need support in these please see Miss Collins.
- Practise being able to tell the time on analogue and digital clocks to the nearest minute, moving onto 24 hour clocks.
- Discuss and identify fractions at home (eg when cutting a pizza)

Science

- **Sound:** Experiment with your child with making different sounds by hitting objects and talk about how sound travels by causing air particles to vibrate. Discuss the meaning of high pitch and low pitch (how high or low the sound is) and experiment with finding ways to create high and low pitch.
- **The Water Cycle:** Talk about the water cycle and notice evidence of the stages (evaporation, condensation, precipitation) around the environment.
- Encourage your child to explore BBC bitesize on line, which has a Science section, to further support their understanding through explanations and videos.

Topic

The Victorians

- Encourage children to remember their previous work on Queen Victoria.
- Remind them of how many years ago the Victorian era began and ended
- Explore with them some of the ways in which Britain changed during the Victorian era – Industrial revolution led to the use of steam, trains and engines, large scale industry, electricity..

Computing

We will be discussing and learning about the importance of e-safety and methods to keep ourselves and others safe. The children will learn how to use technology to make a short film on e-safety.

- Discuss with your child the importance of keeping safe when using the computer at home. Help them to understand the importance of passwords and think about how to create a strong but memorable password. **Thinkuknow** and **CEOP** have advice on using the internet responsibly for parents and children. There are website links on the VLE in the parents section.
- Revisit the internet agreement for safe use at school and home and talk with your child about why the agreement is important.

Personal

Encourage your child to be as independent, as possible, organised and take a pride in their presentation.

- Children in Y4 should be coming into school by themselves.
- They should be organising their own things and resources at the beginning and end of the day including pack up box/ dinner choice, book bag, coat and tasks set out on the whiteboard.
- They should remember to complete their homework and hand it in by Thursday morning.
- They should take responsibility for practicing their spellings several times each week and making sure that they know what each word means and be able to use them in a sentence.
- Support them in regularly practising their times tables.

Please note that your child's teacher is the adult in school who is primarily responsible for children's academic, social and emotional well-being. As such, they are very happy to discuss with you any issues surrounding your child's time at school, and should be the first point of contact should you have any concerns or requests.