

2016

# Year 4



## Spring 2016

Welcome to Year 4  
January 2016

Welcome to 2016! This term we will be sinking our 'teeth' into a scientific half term with a focus on teeth and our digestive system, still life observations of food to inspire modelling and learning how to be safe when taking risks. The second half term will see us 'step into Europe' (not literally- unfortunately) and learn about the geography of the continent and cultures

### Mathematics

As mathematicians this term begins with sequences of numbers extending into negative numbers in relation to temperature. We will also be investigating fractions and finding fractions of numbers and objects. By the end of Year 4 it is intended that the majority of children will have learned their multiplication facts up to 12x12. many of the children are well on their way to achieving this—well done! If you could keep up the great multiplication work that you are doing and really go for it, we are sure that together we will be even closer to our aim.

My Maths can be accessed from home at any point to support your children's learning. There are also lots of ICT games out there on Maths Frame and Top Marks which we use in school and are great to use to support

**Spellings** Spelling will be in the form of learning rules, finding words to fit those rules, alongside lists of words to learn which will be tested within the context of a whole dictated story or sentences. The children will have a spelling journal to bring home weekly with spelling tasks. Thursday is spellings and test day.

**Grammar** One of the key skills for Year 4 is knowing the correct standard English verb inflections. That is 'he was' not 'he were', 'we were' not 'we was' etc. If you spot this in yours child's speech they are more likely to write it down on paper, causing incorrect writ-

learning at home.

### English

As writers we are investigating advertising and creating our own leaflets on a product linked to teeth. We will also be looking at issues and dilemmas within stories and writing our own story with a chosen dilemma. The text we will be using for this writing is Bill's New Frock by Anne Fine. When we move into our work on Europe we will be accompanying Gulliver in his travels and writing our own travel story. We will also be checking out exciting places to visit and creating non-chronological reports on a chosen place.

### Curriculum

As scientists be exploring our digestive system, from start (at the mouth and teeth) to ...the finish! that sparks don't fly! As artists we will be developing our drawing and painting skills along with model-

ten grammar. Correcting this in school is standard practice, if you could do it at home too, we can work together to improve any grammatical errors.

**Homework** Homework will now be set on Fridays to be completed by the following Friday. Homework will be rotated between Maths and English. Teacher feedback for homework will be either verbal or written dependent on the task in line with school policy. ICT based work can be brought in on CD or memory pens which should be labelled.

**Reading** Reading books continue to be given out, and your child continues to read with a range of adults. We will be

ling with our Art of Food topic and then using collage and digital media to manipulate and create images for a purpose. As musicians we are going to be enjoying the great classical works of European classic musicians such as Mozart and Ravel's Bolero, along with the choreography of Torville and Dean!

**PE kit is dark blue shorts, a 'House' t-shirt and black pumps.** As some sessions are taught outside, your child will need trainers, along with some plain track-suit trousers for cold days.

**Jewellery should not be worn to school.** If your child has pierced ears they need to remove their earrings before the PE lesson.

We are delighted to be having coaching session this term on teambuilding and will be soon learning how to scoot safely! Please remember your permission slip for this activity.

reading whole class novels and the children will have the opportunity to read regularly each day both independently and during guided sessions. Both classes have reading areas filled with hints and tips, comfortable seating and other exciting reading related materials. Please hear your children read for the recommended ten minutes a day and sign their record when books are finished so that we know that the book has been read with an adult. We will do our very best to change books on the day they arrive in school, however for this to happen the children need to put them in the correct place in their classroom—please encourage them to take responsibility to do this independently.

### The Staff

4AH will be taught by Mrs. Huxtable with Mrs. McCall and Mrs Thompson.

4SAS will be taught by Mrs. Smith with Miss Vohra.

Both classes will be taught by Mrs. Bushell on Wednesdays.

If you need to speak to any of us please pop in after school or make an appointment with the office.

### Behaviour Expectations

At Whitefield we follow the ABC of Aim High, Be Responsible and Care and Respect. To support this aim the children have developed class charters which detail their rights and responsibilities. They have all signed this charter and agreed to the rewards and consequences which go with the system. This includes the Cool Wall and a lunchtime detention system for appropriate situations. There is also a sub-zero positive reward system in both classes to recognise exceptionally well behaved children and a points system for whole class treats. The children can also benefit from the achievement of being 'Table of the Week' for which they will receive special privileges!

**Volunteers**—Do you or someone you know have a few spare hours? Why not volunteer to help in school? Ask at the office for more details.

