



Year 4 Newsletter



Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 4! We hope you have all managed to have a well deserved rest over the Summer holidays. We are delighted with all the children as they have settled in so well and it has been lovely to see them enter our classrooms with BIG smiles on their faces. We are enjoying working with, and getting to know the children and supporting them with the next steps of their learning as they move through Whitefield Primary School.

STAFFING

Classes this year are led by Mr Roberts and Mrs Huxtable. They are supported by Miss Scott and Mrs Gregory, as well as Ms Hutchinson who will be in on Mondays. As much as possible, any cover will be provided by Mrs Iddon. Any written correspondence *must* be handed in to us by your child as we are unable to check bags every day.

AUTUMN TERM

Most of our work done in class this term will link to our school vision of 'Healthy Hearts, Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds'. This term we will be developing our ability to investigate new topics and to retain a range of new facts.

As scientists we will be learning about living things and their habitats. We will also be introducing the children to the different states of matter and the relationships between a solid, a liquid and a gas.

As historians we will investigate the history of Britain during the Anglo Saxon and Viking times, particularly focussing on what people's lives were like during this era.

As geographers we will be learning about the features of a river during the upper, middle and lower course. We will also be practicing finding countries using lines of latitude and longitude. To support our learning, children will practice using atlases and online maps.

As product designers we will be introducing the children to structures and how they can be made stable. They will also learn how to evaluate their work.

As artists we will be developing our art and design skills by learning the different terms used in describing art works. One of our focus artists will be Bridget Riley who was famed for her work with optical illusions.

MATHEMATICS

This term begins with a very strong focus on number work and place value. As mathematicians the children will be building on their existing knowledge of place value and number from Year 3. Please continue to help your children to learn their tables as we continue to aim for quick recall. These will help them to access more complex mathematical work with greater speed and confidence. By the end of Year 4 it is intended that the majority of children will have learned their multiplication facts up to 12x12. In the Summer Term, children will complete an online Multiplication Check as part of their assessments.

ENGLISH

As writers we will be producing narratives, a newspaper report and a non-fiction information text based on two books: The Whale and The Leaf! We will be focused on ensuring our children have the necessary skills in place from previous years before progressing further so there will be lots of revision of basic grammar and skills from Year 3.



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READING

Reading books will be changed in on Fridays and assigned on Fridays. If your child finishes a book quickly then we would encourage them to reread their books to embed their learning and build fluency, word recognition and comprehension.

To develop an enduring love of reading, we strongly suggest that children be read with every day for *at least* five minutes. Those minutes add up and really do impact upon children's vocabularies and understanding of stories and concepts. If your child wants to read books at home as well as from school, then please encourage them to record these books, too! Ultimately, reading improves children's ability to access learning across the curriculum and couldn't be more important.

HOME ACTIVITIES

At Whitefield, homework is part of the learning journey and completion is monitored. On Tuesdays Year 4 children will be set homework on the learning platform 'SeeSaw' and this is to be completed and submitted on the following Tuesday. One piece of homework will relate to our Topic, English or Maths work. Children should have received login details for SeeSaw and Purple Mash. If you have not received these, please let us know. Homework should take at most 30 minutes to complete and will never be something your child hasn't been taught.

New spellings will be set on Friday and should be practiced regularly throughout the week along with times tables. Both spellings and times tables will be tested on Fridays.

PE KITS

PE for Year 4 will take place on Wednesdays. All are to arrive at school in a complete PE kit and trainers are allowed to be worn. Your child should have their hair tied back if it is long and they should come into school without earrings on PE days. If earrings cannot be taken out for any reason can you please make sure they bring tape in to cover them up. If it's raining, they may wish to come in normal shoes/boots and put their PE trainers/pumps in their bag.

SNACKS AND DRINKS

Children are allowed to bring in a healthy snack to eat during morning play (separate from their packed lunch). Please may we remind you that we are an allergy aware school and as such please do not bring in snacks containing nuts.

All children need to bring in a plastic bottle containing water to keep in class so that they can drink from it during the day. Please ensure that your child is able to remove the lid themselves to allow us to refill them if needed.

We hope you have found this helpful, if you think there is anything we have missed, please let us know.

Mr Roberts and Mrs Huxtable