Year 4 Autumn Term 2023 – Topic Information for Parents

Welcome to the new school year!

Class 9 – Mr Lingham LSA - Mrs Goodman

Class 10 – Miss Mackrill LSA - Mrs Newman and Miss Sherwin

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

The range of genre studied this term will include, diary entries, narrative writing, all linked to our topics, which will provide the children with a purpose for writing.

There will be regular opportunities for children to develop their speaking and listening skills through class discussions, role play, paired and group work, PSHE and Philosophy for children.

The children will have weekly guided reading sessions with the teacher, focussing particularly upon developing their comprehension skills.

Please remember that all children should have their current reading book in school every day, so that they can read independently as well as to an adult whenever possible.

The children will also participate in weekly grammar and spelling sessions in class and will be bringing spellings home to learn every Friday.

MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

During this term particular focus will be placed upon: - place value, addition and subtraction, area and multiplication and division. Problem solving skills will be developed through all aspects of maths which will be linked to our topics. The children will be encouraged to use whatever resources they feel will help aid their understanding, for example, dienes, place value counters, Numicon. If you require further understanding or clarification, please feel free to discuss with your child's teacher.

Times Tables

To meet the expected standards in Year 4, children need to know all their tables up to 12 x 12. Within the curriculum we will frequently use and apply these facts to support us in solving more complex problems.

The children need to learn their tables – both multiplication and division facts. They will be tested weekly on the tables that they are focusing on. Please support your child in learning their tables at home alongside TT Rockstars. All children need to regularly practise their tables at home so that they do not forget them. In school, children that have completed the Ultimate Challenge will complete a Countdown style activity where they are challenged to reach a target number using +, -, x or ÷, but will also be re-tested on the Ultimate Challenge once each half term.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

Geography

During this term, children will study climate zones and biomes, focusing on Antarctica to contrast with Rainforests in the summer term. We will also look at Roman Britain and the impact they had on the landscape.

History

The children will be learning about the Roman Empire and the impact it had on life in Roman Britain. They will be given opportunities to examine and handle artefacts and carry out their own research.

Science

The focus this term will be 'States of Matter' where children will learn about solids, liquids and gases. We will also be looking at the water cycle.

RE

We have two themes for this term. Firstly, 'Places of Worship' where the children will be studying how and where Christians, Hindus and Jews worship. After half term, the children will be looking at the concept of 'Angels' in Christianity.

Computing

This term the children will be made aware of fake news, give them the skills to consider each piece of news they read on its own merits and decide what is real or fake.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Dance

The theme for our dance in Autumn 2 is the 'water cycle' where children will learn a set sequence, understand the importance of a warm up and a cool down and work in a group to create a section of a dance ready to perform.

Gymnastics

We will be working on building our shape and balance techniques, creating floor work sequences.

Games

This term we will be learning about Netball and Rugby.

Please ensure children wear appropriate kit for PE; this includes trainers for outdoors and a warm tracksuit as the weather gets colder. If children do not wear their kit, they will not be allowed to take part in the lesson.

Please ensure children are wearing their PE kits on Tuesday and Friday.

Get Heart Smart

The principle is that our heart affects the whole of our life. What we put into our hearts will affect what we put our hearts into. Our lives will be greater or worse, more courageous or more fearful as a result of what's in our heart. Therefore, learning how and when to lead and guard our hearts is essential for resilient living. But we can't be resilient if we're not first responsible. We can't choose well if we don't yet understand the relationship between the choices we make and the consequences we experience as a result. Get HeartSmart is about recognising that we have the power to choose well. It comes first because it sets the context for the HeartSmart High Five. It's like a bookshelf that the five principles rest on. Get HeartSmart is about self-mastery and taking ownership of the decisions we make, which is foundational to becoming a powerful person.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Art

This term, children will be developing and using a range of drawing skills. Children will learn and use vocabulary associated with observational drawings and acquire new skills to use across a range of artwork.

We also will be designing, planning and sculpting clay linked to the theme of angels.

Music

During this term the children will get the opportunity to work with different instruments and explore music in a variety of ways linked to ideas about the Romans and Angels.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

We will start the new academic year with a focus on what are we hoping for in terms of our learning, our friendships and our new class.

We will continue to make explicit links with our core Christian values of Love, Hope and faith and with the British values wherever possible (which are democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs).

Homework shall begin in a few weeks. In the meantime, we would appreciate if you could read with your child daily.

HOMEWORK

This will be given out on Fridays and is due in the following Wednesday. The task will be set on google classrooms with an outline of activities for the children to complete. Please let us know if you are having difficulty with the homework. We do not want homework to be a cause of conflict between children and parents, and we need to work together to make it a positive experience for everyone.

Thank you!

Year 4 Team