

Year Four Newsletter

January 2021

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

This is a revised newsletter as the first edition stated how pleased I was to have the children back in school....

The term may not have started how we planned, but I do hope you all had a nice break for Christmas. And, I am pleased to see the children again albeit remotely or in the Keyworker bubble .



Our big question this term is - *Why did the Romans create art?* We will begin work on this as soon as we have concluded our Mayan topic.

Despite learning being completed at home, we will be endeavouring to cover the curriculum as closely as we can. What cannot be taught remotely we will address upon the children's return to school.

Our Curriculum

We are starting this term with a poetry unit in English before moving on to writing a narrative inspired by the book *Escape From Pompeii* by Christina Balit. The children will then get the opportunity to apply their learning about the Romans by writing a diary entry of a Roman soldier. In Maths, we are currently focusing on multiplication and division and the links between the two operations. This work involves multiplication and division facts, as well as strategies for problems involving larger numbers and real life problems involving money and measures.

Our topic gives the children the chance to further develop their geographical skills by exploring the location of Italy and researching some of its major cities. They will also develop their historical skills when they find out more about aspects of daily life in Ancient Rome and consider what different sources of evidence teach us about the past.

Our science topic for this term is Sound. The children will learn how sound is created by vibrations and they will investigate what makes hearing more and less difficult.

This term our RE sessions will focus on Hinduism and the importance of community and the key concept of duty. The children will learn more about Hindu festivals and the significance of Hindu gods and goddesses.

The children will be completing their DT project on Mayan houses. This will require them to work safely with a range of tools and to explore different ways of joining materials.

The timetable below shows the subjects that are to covered each day.

For Maths and Writing, there will be a recorded session but the presentation will be uploaded too. All resources can be found on the padlet as well as on Microsoft Teams.

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------------------|---------|
| Maths | Maths | PE | Maths | Maths |
| English | English | PSHE | English | English |
| Reading | Grammar | Well-being | Reading | Grammar |
| Connections | Science | Reading for | Connections | Music |
| Spelling/ Handwriting | RE | pleasure | Spelling/ Handwriting | French |

Please submit completed work via email to Whaplode.Y4@southlincs-hub.co.uk

Zoom Sessions

Every morning at 9am, there will be a zoom registration meeting. This lasts around 10 minutes and just gives us a chance to check in, share any news or worries and talk about the tasks for the day. There will also be a zoom catch-up meeting on a Wednesday from 1pm to 1.30pm. This gives the children a chance to chat to their classmates and I have got some quizzes planned for these sessions too.

Live Meetings on Teams

I will be live on Teams from 10.30 to 11.15am on a Tuesday and a Thursday. If you are struggling with any of the set tasks, you can pop on and have a chat about it or you can just pop in to say hello and share some work. The meeting will not close until 11.15 so you do not need to join at 10.30. you can join and leave when you choose.

Top Tips for Home Learning

- * **Establish a timetable** - *If you can, have set times for different tasks each day so the children know what the expectations are each day.*
- * **Balance online time with offline**
- * **Have some outside time everyday** - *Exercise and fresh air is essential for the children's well-being, it gives the grown-ups a break too!*
- * **Be confident** - *You may not be a teacher but you do know more than you think. If you are trying your best, you are doing a good job.*
- * **Stay calm** - *If you get stressed, your child will get stressed. Take a break if you need to and if some tasks do not get done, they do not get done.*