



Whaplode C of E Primary - Year 4 Newsletter

(January & February 2024 / Spring 1 - Term 3)

I hope that everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable break and is looking forward to whatever adventures 2024 will bring. I'm excited to be joining Y4 this new year and would like to thank everyone for already making me feel so welcome. Hopefully this newsletter will give you a good idea of what is in store for the class in the next few months but if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to talk to me at the end of the day or arrange an appointment with the school office.

Thank you, Mrs Ackah

English

We are beginning the term looking at the poem *The River* by Valerie Bloom and using it to understand metaphor as a literary device. We will be using James Carter's non-fiction text *Once Upon a Raindrop* to support our writing of an explanation and before half-term we will be creating a piece of narrative fiction.

We are already enjoying our class story which is titled *The Violet Veil Mysteries: A Grave Danger* by Sophie Cleverley and have begun reading *Edie and the Box of Flits* by Kate Wilkinson as our key text during our reading skills lessons. Both novels are providing us with lots of interesting vocabulary to discuss and some intriguing characters.

Mathematics

This term we will be working on multiplication and division. We will be learning about factors, multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100 and how to multiply and divide three-digit numbers by a single digit number. Later in the term, we will begin looking at fractions.

Throughout the year, you can support your child to learn their times tables. Not only will this be invaluable in their daily maths lessons but will help them during the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) which they will be taking this summer.

PE

Children will continue to have two PE sessions each week. Dance on a Monday and a gymnastic lesson with our sports coach on a Thursday. On PE days, children must attend in their PE kits.

Earrings MUST be removed before school.

French

To complement our science topic, we will be learning French words around habitats and animals.

Important Information

Morning break snack should be either one piece of fruit, a box of raisins, a cereal bar, a piece of cheese, two plain biscuits **or** 20p for our fruit shop.

Homework will be sent home on a **Thursday** and must be in by the following **Wednesday**.

Children are expected to read at home a minimum of 4 times a week in line with school policy. Please ask your child questions as they read to aid their comprehension and remember to sign their reading diary.

Spellings will be sent home on a **Wednesday** and tested on a **Monday**. Spelling sheets **MUST** be returned to school on a **Monday** morning. Times tables will also be tested on a **Monday**.

Science

We will be covering ecosystems, the food chain and how human actions affect our environment within our ecology unit this term.

RE

We will study the religion of Islam, finding out about Muslim worship and pilgrimage and the life of the prophet Muhammad.

In **Geography**, we will be exploring Eastern Europe, looking at some of the capital cities, the climate and understanding recent territorial conflicts in the region.

In **Art**, we are understanding the concept of design and studying Matisse, Expressionism and *The Scream* by Edvard Munch.

With my degree in Ancient History, I am very excited that this term we will be studying the Roman way of life and empire in **History!**

In **DT**, we will be designing and programming a micro:bit to create a mindful moments timer.

In **Computing**, we will be learning how to design and create a website.

In **Music**, we will focus on learning the song *Stop!* - a rap/song about bullying. We will learn about the interrelated dimensions of music through games, singing and composing.

In **PSHE**, we will be thinking about our Dreams and Goals and considering what we want to achieve and how we can create a positive mindset, in order to support our personal growth and development.

Don't forget to check out the school website and our class Twitter page @whaplode_4 for useful information and to see what we've been up to.