



Whaplode C of E Primary - Year 4 Newsletter

(April & May 2024 / Summer 1 - Term 5)

I hope you have all had a lovely Easter break. I have enjoyed visiting some friends and family over the holidays and eating lots of chocolate eggs! It has been nice to get outside in the sunshine and I hope you have all had some outdoor adventures too!

This newsletter will give you a good idea of what is in store for the class in the next few weeks 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.

English

During this term, we will be using *The Lost Thing* by Shaun Tan as the basis for our grammar and narrative work. We will also be learning how to construct an explanation text using *The Gut Garden* by Katie Brosnan as the basis for our explanation.

We will be reading *The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips* by Michael Morpurgo in class and using the novel *Varjak Paw* by SF Said to practise our reading and interpretation skills within the classroom.

Mathematics

This term we continue to work on decimals before applying our learning to understanding money and solving problems using pounds and pence. Later in the term we will be spending some time (!) looking at analogue and digital clocks and ensuring that we can tell the time using both.

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: swimming on Tuesday morning and a rounders lesson with our sports coach on a Thursday, when children must attend in their PE kits.

Earrings MUST be removed before school.

French

We will be learning French words for items in the classroom, learning how to say what objects children do and don't have in their pencil cases and on their desks.

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 each time. Spellings will be sent home on a **Wednesday** and tested on a **Monday**. Times tables will also be tested on a **Monday**.

Children will be swimming on **Tuesday** morning and should attend in PE kits on **Thursday** with earrings removed before school.

Science

We will be studying states of matter and the water cycle this term. This will cover evaporation, condensation and precipitation.

RE

We will be understanding the concept and consequences of pilgrimage within religion. This will build on our previous study of the Muslim Hajj. We will look at Christian trips to Walsingham and the detrimental effect of Kumbh Mela on the River Ganges.

In **Geography**, we will be exploring the South-East of England, looking at some of the physical features including the White Cliffs of Dover and how the River Thames has contributed to the development of London.

In **Art**, we are studying Byzantine monuments, focussing on the beautiful buildings in Constantinople (modern day Istanbul) starting with the amazing mosaics in Hagia Sofia.

We are studying an interesting period of British **History** over the next two terms as we take a look at some of the key events of the Stuart period, including the Gunpowder Plot, the English Civil War, the Restoration and the Great Fire of London.

In **DT**, we will be learning how to follow a recipe and cooking biscuits.

In **Computing**, we will develop areas of computational thinking through a range of plugged and unplugged activities.

All the learning in **Music** this term is focused around one song: Blackbird by The Beatles - a song about civil rights.

In **PSHE**, we will be thinking about our relationships with our families and friends and thinking about how to deal with jealousy and conflicts.

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.