

# Year 4 Newsletter

Spring term 2 2016

## Year 4

Teacher - Mr Wall  
Teaching Assistant - Mrs Frost  
HLTA - Mrs Frost (covering PPA time)

Welcome back everyone. I can't believe we are half way through the school year already!

If you have any queries or questions about anything please don't hesitate to speak to me or arrange a meeting with me after school.



## Important Days

### Fridays

Homework due (This is usually Mathematics).

### Thursdays

PE with Total Sports Coaches.

Appropriate kit for the weather conditions, including trainers, is essential.

## RE

Naturally, this half term we will be focussing mainly on Holy Week and Easter. The children will learning all about Holy Week and all of the events which took place. They will be looking at how Jesus became truly human using a spectrum of different styles of learning, including Art and Drama (including role-play)

## English

This half term our English work will revolve mainly around one of my (and many of the children's) favourite books; Matilda by Roald Dahl. The children be honing their grammar skills using adverbials and inverted commas. They will also be learning about non-chronological reports and writing instructions. The children will also be writing some film/book reviews of Matilda to give them an opportunity to comment on their favourite, or least favourite, aspects of the text or film and how the two may differ.

## Mathematics

This half term, the children will be working primarily on basic fractions and fractions of quantity. We will look at mental methods for calculating fractions as well as practising some trickier questions involving addition and subtraction. We will also be continuing to focus on worded problems; to become fluent in their language and to become experts at how to solve them. Apologies for the broken promise of Maths papers on the school website! I will now be uploading Maths papers we have completed in school for your child to practise at home with you. This will be very beneficial if your child would like more practise on a particular aspect of Maths, or they would just like some more test experience!

Please note that all children by the end of Y4 now are expected to know to 12x12. **This takes effort and commitment from home as well as school.** Please help your child! These are essentials and we really must equip our children with these skills for life. **Maths is significantly easier if you know these.**

## Science

In science we will be focussing on my favourite topic of the year - Sound. The children will be discovering what makes a sound occur and how sound travels, along with the concept of pitch and volume. We will also be taking an in depth look into some musical instruments and their features to better understand how they work.

## Topic

Following on from our sound theme in Science, our Topic this half term will be Music and Sound. The children will be learning about different types of noise pollution as well as designing and building our own diddy-bows. Year 4 will also learn about guitar pickups and how to build basic versions to turn their acoustic instruments into electric instruments! We will be needing a variety of materials to complete these so I would very much appreciate it if you could start collecting some materials at home, to ensure every child has a range of materials to build their instruments. We will especially be needing glass bottles (small- like coca-cola bottles) and planks of wood (whatever you can spare). If you have any of these materials we would be very grateful.

## Homework

- Weekly spellings & sentences
- KIRFS/Times tables - 12 x 12 remember!
- Mathletics
- Reading x 3 minimum
- Occasional science/topic tasks

Homework policy is available on the school website.

## Ways to Help/Notices

Please encourage your child to read as much as possible during their free time. It is really clear who reads regularly and who doesn't! It doesn't have to be just school books, please read as much as possible with your child! A special well done to Florence Foster, Niamh Carr and Hannah Surtees who won the yellow, polka dot and green jerseys respectively for exceptional reading! I am trying to set Mathletics weekly to encourage some stimulating homework. I would like to see everyone complete the homework! Please encourage your children to complete some Mathletics every week. Thanks for all your support over last half term! -- Mr Wall

