



What's happening in Class Four in autumn II 2023?

Dear Parents,

Class Four have had a very busy, exciting and interesting start to the year. When I think about what we achieved last term, I am amazed we managed to fit it all in! This half term will also have lots of exciting opportunities for the children: Bikeability (for Year 6 pupils), sports competitions and all the fun that comes with Christmas. The children are doing well with their myriad responsibilities: play-leading, librarian duties, salad bar, head boy and girl roles and tribe leaders.

In English lessons, we will finish reading the book *Jamie*, by JD Lapinski. We are focusing on the reading skills of retrieval, inference and summarising. Our writing genres are non-chronological reports, explanation and persuasion texts. Currently, the children are enjoying writing a fictional story called *Catch a Lot*. We will be focusing on the spelling patterns sion, ssion, tion and cian as well as cious/tious and tial/cial endings. In grammar lessons, we will be focusing on accurately using commas, apostrophes, semi-colons and colons.

Spelling

The children will continue to have 10 personal spellings weekly. These are the statutory spelling words (or words beyond - if the children can spell 100% of the year 5/6 words). The children will have a spelling test once a week and the expectation is that they achieve 10/10.

In maths, we will be covering these topics:

- Formal methods for multiplication and division (year 5)
- Adding and subtracting mixed numbers. Division of fractions (Year 6)
- Finding equivalent fractions, adding and subtracting fractions (year 5)
- Properties of triangles and quadrilaterals, finding angles and solving problems using reasoning skills (year 6)

For this term in science, the children are continuing to learn about light. They will know vocabulary such as ray, prism, reflection, refraction, retina, focal point, spectrum, light source, transparent, translucent and opaque; building on previous knowledge from Year 4. Then they will complete a unit on living things, focusing on classification and the work of Carl Linnaeus.

Class Four pupils will be developing tag rugby and netball skills as well as developing their fitness in P.E. **P.E. kit is to be worn to school every Monday and Thursday.** Please make sure that correct P.E. kit is worn on these days.

This half term, we will be learning to sing in rounds, parts and harmonies. We will also learn our Christmas songs and do some exploring with untuned and body percussion.

In art lessons, the children will be developing their painting skills, creating works inspired by art from South America.

For geography lessons, we will be learning about countries in South America and contrasting these with Kenya and the UK.

In computing, the children will be developing their digital literacy skills in PowerPoint: wrapping text, inserting hyperlinks, manipulating images and inserting borders.

PSHE lessons will be centred around the relationships strand of the PSHE curriculum. The children will learn about how to resolve disputes and reconcile differences. We will be doing work around anti-bullying during Anti-Bullying week, which begins on November 13th.

Mr Hill will teach Class Four French and R.E. on a Thursday afternoon.

What can you do?

Class Dojo is our primary means of communication. I post information regularly, so please make sure you log in frequently. You can also message me through Class Dojo.

- **The single biggest difference your child can make to their learning is daily reading at home, ideally with a chat about what they have read afterwards, including discussing meanings of words. It is the expectation in Class Four that the children read at least 5 times a week.**
- Have your child practise their spelling words daily, 10 minutes is enough time. Make sure your child knows the meaning of the word and can put it into a sentence. There is no point in learning to spell words that they do not know the meanings of!
- Ask your child times table and related division facts to improve recall.
- Ensure your child completes their homework and help them if necessary. Homework goes out on Wednesday and is to be returned the following Monday.

If you have any queries or want to come in and discuss any aspect of your child's education, we are available to meet you after school or speak to you on the phone. Mrs Reynolds or myself are more than happy to meet with you! 😊

Mrs Fitzpatrick and Mrs Reynolds