



Welcome to Year 4

Autumn Term 2017

Staff

Class Teachers

Mrs Constantinou (Year Leader)- Elephant Class (4C)

Miss Ring- Giraffe Class (4R)

Mrs Jordan- Zebra Class (4J) *Mon, Tues, Weds, Fri*

Mrs Harmston- Zebra Class (4J) *Thurs*

Support Staff

Mrs Davis- Elephant Class (4C)

Mrs Gill- Giraffe Class (4R)

Mrs Moore- Zebra Class (4J)

Key Dates

During the course of the term, there are also some important key dates. These dates are also listed on the Welcome to Year 4 Curriculum letter:-

4C (Elephants) Class Assembly	Friday 20 th October 2017
Africa Dress Up Day	Monday 6 th November 2017
4J (Zebras) Class Assembly	Friday 24 th November 2017
Year 4 Water Aid Charity Event	Wednesday 29 th November 2017
End of Term Curriculum Afternoon	Monday 11 th December 2017
Year 4 Christmas Production <i>(evening and matinee performances)</i>	Tuesday 12 th December 2017

Curriculum

Africa: focus on Benin



We will be focusing all of our learning this term around this topic.

We would welcome any expertise or ideas from parents.

English

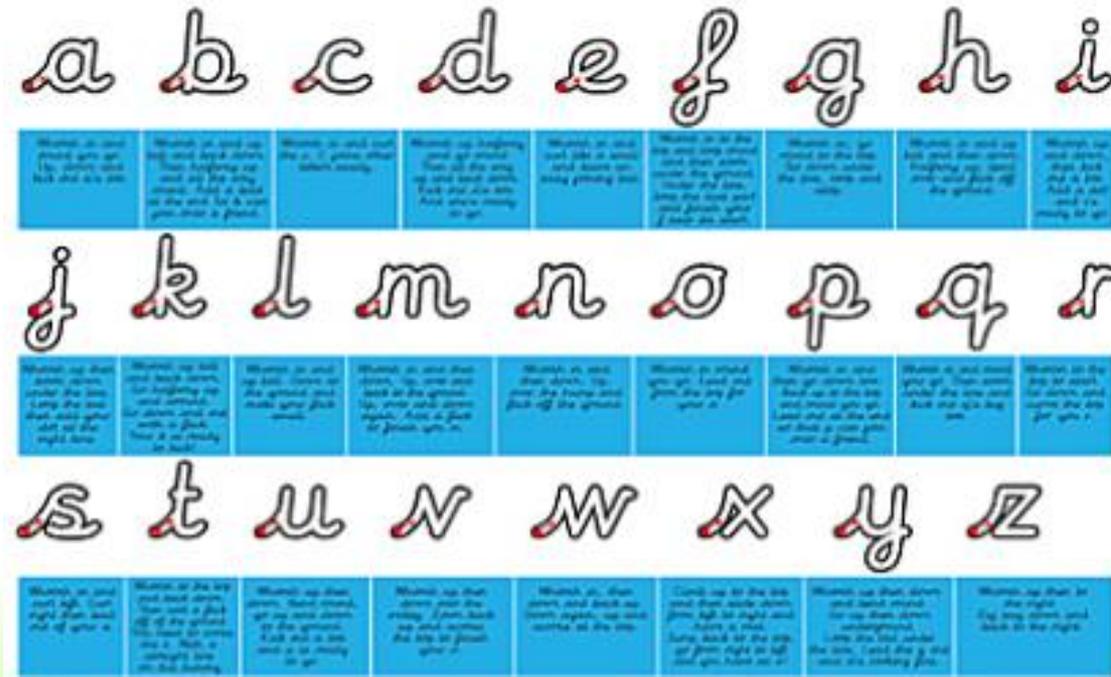
- As well as using a range of fiction and non-fiction texts to develop our knowledge about Africa, our main texts this term will be '*Meerkat Mail*' by Emily Gravett and '*The Butterfly Lion*' by Michael Morpurgo.
- If possible, we would recommend that your child has their own copy of '*The Butterfly Lion*.' Copies are available from Amazon online or from most high street bookshops.
- Throughout the term we will be looking at a range of genre types. Within each unit that we cover, we will be looking at key grammatical functions appropriate to your child's ability. Each week or fortnight, the children work towards an extended piece of writing that is then marked in detail so that they can edit and improve it. We have a key focus on reviewing work and ensuring that the children can go back and edit their mistakes so that they can further develop their understanding.
- A list of recommended reading books (both fiction and non-fiction) are included for your reference on the Welcome to Year 4 Autumn Term letter.

Reading

- Children should be encouraged to read each evening for at least ten minutes and to complete the reading record section in their homework diaries accordingly.
- Your child's teacher will listen to them read at least once weekly- you can see feedback from Guided Reading sessions in your child's homework diary.
- We encourage children to read a wide range of texts and expect children to have filled in their reading record each day, detailing the title, author and pages they have read.
- In school, children complete reading genre charts which categorise the books they have read both in school and at home into genres. These genres include:-
 - Fiction
 - Science Fiction
 - Poetry
 - Fairytales, Myths and Legends
 - Non-Fiction
 - Autobiographies
 - Biographies

Handwriting

- This year, we are implementing a new handwriting scheme from Years 3-6.
- Children will now be taught cursive script in an explicit handwriting lesson each week and will be expected to use this script in all lessons.
- Additional handwriting boosters are in place if for children who are struggling to write cursively.



Spellings

- At the beginning of term, all children will be given a spelling assessment which will determine their spelling group (1, 2 or 3).
- Children will be explicitly taught a spelling pattern during the week which links to their spelling list.
- Spellings are given on a Monday and are tested the following Monday.
- Children also have a statutory list of spellings which can be found at the back of their homework diaries.
- Children must know how to spell every word on the statutory spelling list by the end of Year 4.
- Additional spelling boosters are in place if for children who are struggling to learn/remember their spellings.

Maths

- Maths this year will be taught in class rather than sets.
- During the Autumn Term, your child will be focusing on the following areas:-
 - Number-Place Value
 - Number- Addition and Subtraction
 - Measurement, Length and Perimeter
 - Number- Multiplication and Division

Year 4 – Yearly Overview

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12
Autumn	Number – Place Value				Number- Addition and Subtraction			Measurement - Length and Perimeter	Number- Multiplication and Division			Consolidation
Spring	Number- Multiplication and Division		Measurement - Area	Fractions				Decimals		Consolidation		
Summer	Decimals		Measurement- Money		Time	Statistics		Geometry- Properties of Shape		Geometry- Position and Direction	Consolidation	

Maths

- Maths homework is handed out on Wednesdays and is due in on Fridays.
- There will also be a Times Table test every Wednesday.
- Children are expected to practise their target times table as part of their homework each week.
- Children will continue to be set Mathletics homework once a fortnight. Their new username and password can be found at the front of their homework diaries and at the front of their Maths homework books.

In order to support the challenge of the National Curriculum and develop children's ability to master the mathematical objectives, we have changed the way that we are grouping the children for their Maths lessons.

The National Curriculum now has less coverage in its objectives but it is about fully embedding these through a range of problem solving to develop mathematical thinking.

We are providing the children with the opportunity and the support where needed to achieve this and to promote collaborative learning which is another key skill of the National Curriculum.

In doing this, children will be able to enjoy and participate in more problem solving activities which will help them to develop their reasoning and ability to articulate their key mathematical thinking; one of the most challenging targets to achieve in Maths.



Science

Autumn Term 1: Moving and Growing

- Animals (including humans)
- Digestive system
- Teeth
- Food chains
- Skeletons

Autumn Term 2: Electricity

- Electrical appliances
- Constructing and identifying parts of a circuit
- Conductors and insulators

History & Geography

History

Children will learn about some of the early explorers and settlers in Africa. Studies will include research about slavery, equality, William Wilberforce and Nelson Mandela.

Geography

Children will be comparing rural and urban communities in a range of countries. Our global enquiries will focus on fair trade and the impact of tourism. Children will also learn more about the country of Benin.

Art & DT

Art

Children will produce a range of 3D and 2D art using a range of stimuli. David Shepherd will be the artist focus and they will have an opportunity to use a range of materials including: oil pastels, collage, papier maché and watercolours.

DT

'Structures and Mechanisms' will be the DT project this term and children will be designing and creating their own African mud huts. They will also be creating their own African mask.

R.E.

Autumn Term 1: Judaism

Children will be exploring the religion of Judaism. The children will begin the term by examining the Jewish faith, including exploring the importance of a synagogue.

Autumn Term 2: Christianity

After half term, the children will look at why Christians call God, 'Father,' and how artists can help us to understand the celebration of Christmas.

Music

Autumn Term 1:

During the first half term, children will look at the band, Ladysmith Black Mambazo and also focus on how to listen to music with attention to detail and be able to recall sounds correctly.

Autumn Term 2:

After half term, children will be appreciating a range of live and recorded music from Africa as well as improving their vocal skills.

French

Children will be following a new French scheme called, 'La Jolie Ronde.'

During the Autumn Term, they will revise how to say the colours in French, how to identify parts of the body in French as well as learning the names for different animals.

Computing

In the first few weeks of term, children will be exploring e-safety.

They will then begin to collect and present information linked to our Africa topic as well as developing their Internet research and programming skills.

Children will also be following an 'I-Compute' programme in which they will be making shapes and navigating mazes.

P.E. and Games

P.E.

- Children will be exploring African and tribal dance as well as using the book, 'Giraffes Can't Dance,' as a springboard to inspire their own dances.
- Children will be developing their teamwork skills as well as participating in a skills-based programme, aimed at helping them to develop:-
 - Agility
 - Balance
 - Co-ordination

Games

- During outdoor Games sessions, children will participate in OAA activities and football skills.

Children will need their P.E. kit in school on the following days:-

- 4C- Tuesdays & Fridays
- 4J- Wednesdays & Thursdays
- 4R- Tuesdays & Wednesdays

P.S.H.E. (Personal, Social, Health Education)

Autumn 1: We're All Stars!

- Children will begin the term by creating a class charter and will focus on how they can work collaboratively towards shared goals.
- They will also have an opportunity to reflect and celebrate their achievements as well as identifying their strengths and areas for improvement.

Autumn 2: You've Got A Friend in Me!

- Children will begin to recognise ways in which a relationship can be unhealthy and who to talk to if they need support.
- They will also explore different types of relationships, including those between acquaintances, friends, relatives and families.

Homework

Year 4 children have homework 3 times a week:

English

Monday : English homework due Wednesday

Monday: Spellings to learn for spelling test on following Monday

Maths

Wednesday: Maths homework due Wednesday

Wednesday: Times table target to learn for a test on the following Wednesday.

Topic:

Topic Homework project.

Project based learning

Across the school the children are continuing to submit topic homework projects.

All year groups have the same submission dates.

Every 2-3 weeks every year group will be collecting the projects on the same days:-

- Friday 6th October 2017
- Friday 20th October 2017
- Friday 10th November 2017
- Friday 1st December 2017

Communication

Should you wish to meet with your child's class teacher in person, please arrange an appointment via. the school office.

If you wish an important message to be relayed, please do this via. note to your class teacher.

Please note that reading diaries are inspected by the class teacher once a week during your child's allocated guided reading session.

If the homework diary contains a message which must be read that day, please ask your child to inform us of this during registration.

All Year 4 teachers will be on the school gate at 3.10pm each Friday. Mrs Constantinou will be on the school gate before and after school on a Wednesday.

PGL Liddington 2018

2nd May- 4th May

PGL Liddington is located in Swindon and all activities take place within the grounds of the centre.

- Abseiling
- Aeroball
- Archery
- Fencing
- Giant Swing
- Orienteering
- Trapeze
- Vertical Challenge

More details regarding the trip will be discussed in the Summer Term Curriculum Talk.



Any Questions?