



## Year 4 Spring Newsletter

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome back! We hope you had a fantastic break and that 2020 will be a good year for you. Thank you all **so** much for your thoughtful Christmas gifts and wonderful cards. We really appreciate it!

This letter will give you an outline of some of the things we will be covering in class this term. We have some exciting topics planned and can't wait to get started.

### English

Our English topic has started with 'How to train your dragon' and the children are really enjoying it so far! We will be focusing on story writing. The children will be planning and writing their own versions of 'How to train your dragon' as well as developing and implementing all of the skills we have learnt so far. We will be continuing to use the Power of Reading approach to teach English and relating the majority of our English work to that book.

### Maths

We will be covering a wide range of maths topics this term. This will include revising and consolidating some of the things the children have already worked on, as well as learning and developing new skills and knowledge. Here is a rough guide of what we will be covering in class:

Spring		
Weeks		
1 – 3	Number: Multiplication and Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11 and 12 times table</li> <li>• Multiply 3 numbers</li> <li>• Factor pairs</li> <li>• Efficient multiplication</li> <li>• Written methods</li> <li>• Multiplying and Dividing 2 and 3 digit numbers</li> </ul>
4	Measurement: Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is area?</li> <li>• Counting squares</li> <li>• Making shapes</li> <li>• Comparing area</li> </ul>
5-8	Number: Fractions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is a fraction?</li> <li>• Equivalent fractions</li> <li>• Fractions greater than one</li> <li>• Counting in fractions</li> <li>• Adding and subtracting two or more fractions</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subtracting from whole amounts</li> <li>• Calculating fractions of quantities</li> <li>• Problem solving</li> </ul>
9-11	Number: Decimals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognise tenths and hundredths</li> <li>• Placing tenths and hundredths on a place value grid and number line</li> <li>• Diving one and two digits by 10 and 100</li> <li>• Recognising hundredths as a decimal</li> </ul>
12	Consolidation	

## Science

This term in Science, we will be studying 'Sound' and will look forward to creating instruments using recycled materials for homework.

## History and Geography

In History this term we will be learning about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. We will be making these lessons as cross-curricular as possible to engage the children. For example, we will be making Anglo-Saxon brooches using clay in Art. Please look out for a letter explaining our special Viking day which will take place after Half Term.

## Music

Wherever possible, we will be linking our music teaching to the book that we are studying in class. Every Monday during our planning time (PPA), Mrs Wood will be teaching Music using a variety of instruments.

## Computing

We have a good range of technology available at Bickley and will make use of the, Laptops and IPADs to access the Computing curriculum. The children will continue to develop their understanding of programming this term.

## French

In French the children will: revise days of the week and months of the year; learn vocabulary for body parts, animals and food.

## PE

PE will take place on **Monday and Wednesday for both classes**. Please ensure that the children have a tracksuit as we will still be going outside. The children must have their PE kit in school **every day**. Please ensure your child's hair is tied back and their earrings are covered or removed.

## Art

Art will mostly be linked to the books we are covering in English as well as our other exciting Foundation Subjects. We will focus on painting techniques and 3D projects

including a Viking Longship! If you have an empty cereal box please keep this safe as we will need it after Half Term. 😊

## **RE**

In RE, the children will be learning about 'Sikhism'. We will discover what Sikhs believe about God and explore their place of worship. We are hoping to visit the fantastic Gurdwara in Gravesend as this will be a memorable experience for the children and bring their learning to life.

## **Homework**

This term we will be sending weekly homework with a focus on times tables as the children will be completing a Government Multiplication check later on in the year. We would really appreciate your help and support with helping your child to learn their tables off by heart. The national curriculum specifies that pupils should be taught to recall the multiplication tables up to and including 12 x 12 by the end of Year Four. It is essential for future success in mathematics.

Please remember that the children should be reading at home **every day** as part of their homework routine. We expect children to regularly practise their times tables using Times Table Rockstars and Active Learn (Bug Club) to support their reading.

Reading books will be changed and sent home on a regular basis. Please write a comment in your child's Reading Record to confirm that they have read their books at home so that they can be changed. Let us know if they have chosen to read any other exciting texts at home!

## **Spelling**

Spellings will be given out on a **Friday** and tested the following week. They are based on spelling patterns and rules that we will be learning about in English that week. If your child requires a challenge, please research other words which follow the same pattern or use a dictionary to look up their meanings.

Please feel free to come and see us at any time if you have any worries or concerns. We have an exciting term planned and we know that the children are looking forward to it.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Baker and Mrs Bavin

