



## Year 4 Autumn Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have had a wonderful summer holiday and have had a chance to rest, in preparation for a fun and exciting year ahead.

This newsletter will give you an outline of some of the things we will be covering in class this term. We are super excited and know the children will have a great time learning the what we have planned for them.

### **English**

Our English topic will start with 'The Greatest Showman'. This is to hook the children into our circus theme for the first half term. We will focus on both non-fiction and fiction writing, including researching the history of the circus and writing newspaper reports and creating their own pieces of fiction texts. We will cover different skills including a range of punctuation, developing vocabulary, using a wide range of sentence structures and building up the children's stamina for writing. We will continue to use the Power of Reading approach to teaching English, starting with a quality text and relating most of our English work to that book. In the second half term, we will shift our focus from circus to... magic!

### **Maths**

For maths, will be following the White Rose scheme. As you are aware, by the end of this year, children will sit a Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). This is a statutory requirement from this academic year. It is crucial that the children know all of their times tables up to 12 X 12 by this test (Summer Term). To prepare the children for this, we will be carrying out regular tests. We will begin with the tables they should know by the end of Year 3 (x2, x3, x4, x5, x8 and x10) and then move onto the other times tables.

Please find bellow a rough guide of what we will be covering:

Autumn Term		
Weeks		
1-4	Number: Place Value	Recap numbers to 1000 Round to the nearest 10, 100, 1000 Find 1, 10, 100, 1000 more or less Compare and order numbers Counting in 25s and 1000s Negative numbers Roman numerals Partitioning
5-7	Addition and subtraction	Add and subtract 1s, 10s, 100s and 1000s Add and subtract two 4 – digit numbers Exchanging and not exchanging Estimate answers Check strategies
8-9	Measurement: Length and Perimeter	Recap equivalent length - m and cm, mm and cm Convert between km and m Add and subtract lengths Find the perimeter of different shapes

10-12	Number: Multiplication and Division	Multiply and divide by 10 and 100 Multiply by 1 and 0 Divide by 1 and itself Recap multiply and divide by 3 Multiply and divide by 6, 7 and 9 (know times tables and division facts for these times tables)
13-14	Consolidation and assessment	

### **Science**

In Science this term, we will be learning about 'Electricity' and 'States of Matter.'

### **Geography**

In Geography this term, we will be completing some fieldwork in Bromley Town Centre, following on from our local history study of Bromley in Year 3. We will also be locating cities in the UK and recapping the main countries of Europe.

### **Music**

For music in the first half term, we will explore rhythmic patterns. In the second half term, we will explore arrangements. Some skills that we will cover include, singing songs in unison and in two parts, playing both pitched and unpitched instruments and practising and performing music in pairs or small groups for an audience.

### **Computing**

This term we will teach two units:

We are toy designers

We are meteorologists

### **French**

In French the children will revise greetings, numbers, days of the week and family members and move on to learning the vocabulary for classroom objects.

### **PE**

PE will take place on Tuesday and Thursday and children need to come in the correct school PE kit on these days. *Please ensure your child's hair is tied back and their earrings need to be covered or removed.*

Autumn 1: Table tennis and Dance

Autumn 2: Gymnastics and OAA (Outdoor adventure activities)

### **RE**

This half term, the children will be learning about and learning from Buddhism. The key questions in this topic are the following:

*Is it possible for everyone to be happy?*

*Can the Buddha's teachings make the world a better place?*

*What is the best way for a Buddha to lead a good life?*

In the second half term, we will focus on Christianity and Christmas.

### **PSHE**

In the first half term for PSHE, we will be learning about what makes a responsible citizen. The second half term, we will learn about celebrating our differences.

### **Homework**

Homework will be set weekly on a Monday and due in on Friday. Each week, there will be a spelling and a maths task to complete. Occasionally, we may set other homework linked to our topics.

## **Reading**

Children need to be reading daily for at least 20 minutes at home. The children who are on a reading scheme, need to change their books weekly on a Friday. Those who are free readers can change their books as needed.

## **Spelling**

We are changing our approach to spelling tests. Last year, we found that whilst many children scored highly in their spelling tests, they were not applying this in their written work. This was most apparent when they struggled to apply the spelling rules to words that were not on the list of spellings.

The spelling rule with an explanation will be sent out weekly. It will be sent out on a Monday, after we have introduced and taught the rule for that week. We would ask you to go through the rule with your child, ensuring they understand and apply this rule to a range of words. On a Friday, they will be asked to apply this rule to a set of words which may include some of these words as well as additional words that follow this rule. In addition to this, we will also send home some common exception words (from the Year 3 and 4 common exception words) and some topic words. For children who struggle with spellings, please prioritise learning the spelling rule and then the common exception words. The topic words are optional.

We are really looking forward to another successful and fun packed year (hopefully with no lockdowns!)

Your sincerely,  
Miss Kaynak and Mrs Bradshaw 😊