



Harvey Road School

Class 4

Autumn 2018

Welcome to Class 4!

Hello and welcome to Year 4! I hope you have all had a brilliant summer break and are ready for a new year. Here you will find information about the curriculum for this term. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask me when you see me on the playground first thing in the morning or at the end of the school day. Alternatively, send me a message in your child's homework diary.

Mrs Palfreyman (A.K.A. Mrs P.)

Essential information

Homework – Homework will be given on a Friday to be completed over the weekend and handed in on the following Tuesday. If there are any problems with homework, children then have the opportunity to ask for further assistance at school on Monday. Homework will alternate between maths, grammar and comprehension and each task will take around 30 minutes. There will only be one piece of homework each week.

Homework Diaries - Homework diaries must be in school every day. We will fill them in with information for the following week on a Friday, they should then be signed by parents over the weekend ready for Monday when they will be checked, this must be done by Tuesday at the latest please.

Spellings – Spelling tests will be on a Friday. The children will be given a list of 10 sentences with key words that follow that week's spelling rule and they will have until the following Friday to learn them. They must learn the whole sentence including any important punctuation. Spelling sheets will be tagged into the back of their homework diary every week.

Times tables and divisions- There will be a weekly times table and division test on a Wednesday. The children will be given a set of times tables to learn and practice each week, these tests will follow on from Class 3.

Reading – Children will be bringing a reading book home each night, they should be reading to an adult every weekday for at least 10 minutes. Please sign their homework diaries to show who has heard them read and what page they are up to next. This will be checked daily.

PE – PE lessons will be on a Tuesday and Thursday. Please ensure your child has a full PE kit in school all week as we occasionally do additional PE on other days.

PPA- Mrs Amy Jones will be providing PPA cover for our class. She will be teaching Music and Science on a Tuesday morning.

English

Children will be reading at school regularly, either individually, with an adult, or as part of a class shared reading activity. It is also really important for children to read at home on a regular basis to further develop their reading skills. Grammar activities will be done in class and the children will bring home grammar activities as homework from time to time. Spellings will continue to be a focus and there is a weekly test on a Friday.

The units covered in Literacy this term are:

- Stories from other cultures
- Information texts
- List poetry
- Adventure stories
- Newspaper articles
- Report writing

Children will have the opportunity to read many texts from a genre while studying the specific features of that text before planning, writing and editing their own final story, poem or information text.

Maths

We will be developing a range of maths skills this term, paying particular attention to “Thinking Mathematically” by considering how to use resources to support our thinking and how to justify and explain the answers we have reached. This helps children to really understand mathematical concepts rather than just applying a method and getting an answer.

The topics we will be covering this term include:

- Place Value – Ordering and comparing numbers beyond 1000, rounding and estimation
- Mental methods for addition and subtraction
- Formal written methods for addition and subtraction
- Multiplication and division facts (Times Tables)
- Problem solving in a range of contexts
- Measurement – Conversion of units, comparing, estimating and calculating discrete and continuous in graphs.
- Shape – Finding the perimeter of shapes

Science

Living things: Children will learn to recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. They will explore and use keys to identify and name a variety of living things. Finally, they will look at how changes to habitats can pose dangers to living things.

Sound: Children will learn about how sound is made and how we hear different sounds. They will learn about the volume and pitch of different sounds and what the sound waves of different sounds look like. We will also look at how sound travels and how different variables (like distance, insulation or wind) affect what we can hear.

Geography

Biomes and Vegetable Belts: A biome is a natural area of plants and animals. The world is divided into lots of different biomes and they are all different depending on their climate. We will be learning about the different types and where to find them.

History

Ancient Egypt: Children will be learning about ancient Egypt, focusing on the River Nile and its role in ancient life; Tutankhamen and the story of his tomb discovery; the grisly process of mummification; the pyramids; daily life in ancient Egypt and the importance of remaining artefacts.

D&T

Wallets: We will investigate the function and properties of money containers, then design our own wallet or purse. We will learn a variety of stitches with which to sew our wallets. Any opportunity to practice sewing at home will come in very handy!

Art

Printing: Children will learn skills related to a variety of printing techniques. They will also be designing and creating their own stampers from a range of different materials to make their prints.

Music

Ancient Worlds: The children will be focusing on beat, pitch and structure in music. They will learn to develop their listening skills and create repeated patterns in music as well as composing simple 5 note melodies on the staff. Some of our music will link to our history topic on Ancient Egypt and the children will compose their own music using a layered structure.

PE

Dance: Children will be working individually, in pairs and in small groups to create, perform and review short dance sequences. We will be taking part in the Rickmansworth Dance Festival in November.

Gymnastics: We will be combining floor work and gymnastic apparatus with a focus on balance and shape.

Outdoor adventurous activities: Children will have the opportunity to develop their team building, communication, map reading and fitness skills as we focus on orienteering around the school grounds.

ICT

Accuracy counts: Children investigate the concept of computer networks including the internet and the services offered on it. They use and compare search engines on the World Wide Web, selecting and evaluating with increasing discernment and respecting copyright when creating their own content. They use spreadsheet software to create graphs and to explore number patterns.

RE

Children will learn about the different Hindu gods and the use of shrines for worship in a Hindu home. Before Christmas, children will learn about the importance of Advent in the Christian calendar and how advent is recognised around the globe.

PSHE

To start the term the children will be collaboratively writing a set of class rules and helping to develop our ethos for a safe learning environment. We will be talking about managing different emotions, building healthy relationships.

MFL

We will start by learning how to introduce ourselves and then children will learn the names of different animals including their pets and use adjectives to describe them and their habitats.