



**Viaduct Federation of Schools**

## **Year 4 Autumn Curriculum Newsletter**

Dear Parent / Carer,

The new academic year has started off really well and we have an exciting Autumn Term planned for Year 4. Our topic for this half term will be 'The Romans' and after half term we will look at 'Polar Explorers.' You will have an opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher in October's consultation meetings, however if any issues arise in the meantime please do not hesitate to contact the school and arrange an appointment. We hope that you and your children enjoy a wonderful Autumn Term!

### **Subject Overviews**

#### **English**

We will begin the year by recreating a first person narrative linked to the story of 'The Captive Celt' by Terry Deary. Following this, we will create a non-chronological report about the lives of gladiators where we will learn about how to present a non-fiction text and interest our audience. Later on in the term, we will write an instructional text about the creation of mosaics, which will link to our work in Art. Finally, we will develop our descriptive language skills and create an autumnal poem before the half term break. Throughout this term, we will be developing our grammar and spelling skills with focussed lessons, as well as reading Roman themed texts to develop fluency along with analysing characters, recalling key events and inference skills.

#### **Maths**

In Maths, we will begin by looking at place value of numbers. This will then lead on to developing written methods starting with addition. We will also be helping the children to develop their problem solving skills and their ability to link mathematical learning. Moving forward, we will then explore 12 and 24 hour time before moving onto short multiplication and division. Throughout this term, the children will be given regular opportunities to practise and embed their times tables facts and we encourage the children to practise regularly at home.

#### **Science**

We will begin our Science by learning about the topic 'Animals Including Humans.' We will be learning about the functions of the digestive system through the use of diagrams and identifying the types of teeth in humans as well as their functions. We will carry out scientific investigations to support our scientific understanding and focussing on fair testing and recording observations. We will develop our observation skills by identifying if the animal is a herbivore or carnivore. We will be building upon our knowledge of grouping animals and we will construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.

## **Computing**

To begin the year, we will revisit our learning of E-Safety and keeping ourselves safe online during our topic of 'Don't Fall for Fake'. Next, we will be revisiting our keyboard basics where we will be learning about organising documents and filing structures.

## **Topic (History and Geography)**

In History, we will be learning about Roman Britain. We will look at the invasion of Britain, Boudicca's rebellion as well as Hadrian's Wall. We will develop our analytical skills by observing the changes this brought to Britain as well as the lasting impact that we can still see today. In Geography, we will complete a comparative study of the Polar Regions, identifying key geographical features and using maps, atlases and digital mapping to locate countries and describe features studied. We will develop our locational knowledge by using compass points as well as lines of longitude and latitude.

## **RE**

This year all of our RE learning will be centred around Hinduism under the themes of believing, belonging and behaving.

## **PSHE**

We start the year focussing on relationships and working effectively with each other. We will also explore how friendships make us feel, what makes a healthy relationship and types of bullying.

## **Art**

In Art, we will be using our knowledge linked to our work on 'The Romans' to learn about the creation of mosaics and develop our own ideas of a repeating pattern in the style of a Roman mosaic. After half term, we will explore the work of Lindsey Dahl and use her techniques with chalk.

## **French**

French will be taught throughout the year by Mrs Coffey and the children will begin the year by describing their families and sending communication to our link school in France. Later on, they will look at the celebrations taught through the use of songs and stories.

## **Music**

This term, we will be learning to play tuned percussion focusing on xylophones, metallophones and glockenspiels. Children will learn how the notes are arranged and start to play some short musical phrases using call and response. We will also learn about musical phrasing and the importance of a 'musical full stop'.

## **Games / P.E**

On a Monday and Thursday afternoons, the children will have a Games session either focussing on hockey or football. On a Wednesday morning the children will have a 45 minute indoor PE lesson and a 45 minute outdoor PE lesson. The indoor PE lesson this term will focus on gymnastics whilst the outdoor session will be HRF (health related fitness) with a link to nutrition.

**PE Kit Reminder:** We strongly recommend that your child brings in their full PE kit on a Monday morning and leave it in school until Friday afternoon. This will reduce the number of occasions where children forget their PE kit for lessons.

**Year group info-pictures below from left to right:**

- **Head of Year 4** – Mrs A Edwards
- **Teachers:** Mr M Batchelor, Miss C Hobson, Mrs B Alexander
- **Teaching Assistants:** Mrs T Mawson, Mrs Z Adil,



**Homework**

**Spellings** - children will receive new spellings on a Tuesday which will be stuck in their log books. They will be tested the following Tuesday. We ask that they access Spelling Shed 2 times a week minimum.

**Reading** - We ask that children are listened to while they read for about 10 minutes a day. They have an appropriate reading book given to them by the school but they could also choose to read a book from home or the library. Please support them by recording their reading in their organisers. Children who read at least 5 times per week are awarded merits.

**Maths** - The children will be focusing on their times tables with TTRockstars. We ask that they access this 2 times a week minimum.

**Homework** – Topic homework will be sent out throughout the term (this is longer, project-based activities). Children are encouraged to complete their homework because it reinforces the learning which takes place in school and is another opportunity to practise. Those who complete their homework regularly and to a good standard can earn rewards.

**Snack** -Please remember to pack a healthy snack for your child to eat at playtime along with a refillable water bottle.

- [www.linguafun.eu](http://www.linguafun.eu)—for French
- [www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk)
- Login: Y4 Maple Class (if your child is in one of the other classes, use that class name instead)
- Password: reading
- [www.trockstars.com](http://www.trockstars.com)—for times tables
- [www.edshed.com](http://www.edshed.com)—for spelling practice through games

Your children have logins for both of these websites.

Logins are stuck into their personal log books.

**Dates to remember**

- 22nd September - Aylmerton Information Evening
- 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> September - Parents' Evening

## BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

### **Did you know we now have a Facebook page?**

We have created a Facebook page which will show any news and events across the Viaduct Federation of schools, it is titled 'The Bushfield and Wyvern Viaduct Federation of Schools'. Like us and keep up to date with any fun school events and news!

