



## Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parent / Carer,

We hope you had a lovely half term break and are enjoying some welcomed sunshine. Last term flew by very quickly and with lots to fit in we are sure this term will fly too. During this term, we will be studying 'The Victorians'. Keep an eye on Parent Mail for permissions for upcoming local visits. If you have any questions or wish to speak to your child's class teacher, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

### Subject Overviews

#### English

This half term, we will be linking our English work closely to our 'Victorians' topic. We will be using the text 'The Railway Children' as a stimulus for our fiction writing including a recount (letter) and a suspense narrative. Throughout this term, we will continue to develop our grammatical knowledge with focussed lessons linked to key grammatical terminology, including word families, possessive pronouns and direct speech. We will also be reading Victorian themed texts to develop inference skills, find supporting ideas using evidence from the text and identifying how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning. We will also be continuing to develop the legibility, consistency and quality of our handwriting through focussed lessons.

#### Maths

The children will continue to develop their knowledge and understanding of a wide range of topics in Maths over this term. Our focus will be fractions and decimals. The children will learn about equivalent fraction, mixed number and improper fractions and how to add and subtract fractions. After this, the children will develop their understanding of decimals through understanding tenths and hundredths, multiplying and dividing fractions and using manipulatives to gain an understanding of what decimals look like. The children will also continue to practise their written methods with a dedicated calculation lesson each week. Throughout this term, the children will still be given regular opportunities to practise and embed their times tables facts during our afternoon sessions and we encourage the children to practise regularly at home to help earn their Times Tables certificates.

#### Science

During this term, the children will be learning about Sustainability and Conservation. The children will learn about what energy is and ways we can reduce our energy usage. They will learn about more sustainable forms of energy. The children will also look at how humans are affecting the planet through deforestation, air and water pollution.

#### Computing

The children will be using PowerPoint this term to create a presentation linked to our topic of the Victorians. The children will learn how to add slides and images. They will also learn how to add animations and change colours of texts and backgrounds. The children will finish this topic by presenting their work to the class.

## **RE**

The children will be learning about what Christians believe and how these beliefs guide their lives. They will explore who Jesus is to Christians, how his teachings encourage kindness and forgiveness, and where ideas of right and wrong come from. The children will learn how Christians try to make a positive difference in the world, why communion is an important act of remembrance, and why Easter is such a significant celebration of hope and new beginnings.

## **History**

Using the backdrop of the local area of Wolverton, we will learn about some key events in Victorian times and the impact of these changes. We will explore what it was like to live and work in Victorian Wolverton by using a range of historical sources. Our knowledge will be extended through our Victorian Day as well as a guided tour of Wolverton.

## **Design Technology (DT)**

Linking to our work in History, we will explore the different bridges built during the Victorian era. We will learn how to create and build a truss bridge against a success criteria and the effectiveness of this design will then be evaluated.

## **French**

During this half term, we will continue to work with Mrs Coffey to develop our written language as well as continuing to develop accurate punctuation and intonation when reading. We will also look at the letters from the French link school and draft a response letter.

## **PE & Games**

On a Monday afternoon, during Games lessons, the children will be practising their targeting skills by playing games such as dodgeball, rocket ball, bocca and archery. They will also look at developing their tennis skills. During the indoor PE sessions on a Thursday morning, we will develop their volleyball skills.

## **Music**

During this term, the children will be learning to play a Ukelele with Mrs Yeo. They will begin by learning how to play the 4 strings of a Ukulele. The children will also learn how to play strumming patterns using different notes. Finally, the children will learn how to play a song and perform this to the class.

Year group info-pictures below from left to right:

- **Head of Year 4** – Miss A Burns
- **Teachers:** Miss B Evans, Mrs S Sparshott- Dzialoszynski (Mrs D), Mrs A Dhanji
- **Teaching Assistants:** Mrs T Mawson



## BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

### Homework

**Spellings** - Children will receive new spellings weekly which will be stuck in their spelling books. We ask that they access Spelling Shed 2 times a week minimum and complete their home practise in their spelling book.

**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. Children who read at least 5 times per week are awarded a raffle ticket.

**Maths** - The children will be focusing on their times tables using TTRockstars. We ask that they access this regularly (equivalent of 10 minutes per day).

**Homework** – Topic homework will be sent out throughout the term (this is longer, project-based activities). Children are encouraged to complete their homework as 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.

### Things to Remember

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

**PE Kit** – Children are required to come to school in their PE kit on their PE days (Monday and Thursday). Please ensure that all PE kit is labelled with your child's name (this helps us to ensure it gets back to them when it is lost).

**Uniform** –Please ensure that all uniform is labelled with your child's name (this helps us to ensure it gets back to them when it is lost).

- [www.ttrockstars.com](http://www.ttrockstars.com)—for times tables
- [www.edshed.com](http://www.edshed.com)—for spelling practise through games

Your child has logins for both of these websites.

Logins are stuck into their personal log books.

### Important Dates

- 25<sup>th</sup> February – MTC Information Evening
- 3<sup>rd</sup> March – Victorian Day (see parent mail)
- 5<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day
- 10<sup>th</sup> March – Library Trip – Maple Class (see parent mail)
- 11<sup>th</sup> March – Library Trip – Beech Class (see parent mail)
- 12<sup>th</sup> March – Library Trip – Rowan Class (see parent mail)
- W/B 16<sup>th</sup> March - Assessment Week
- 26<sup>th</sup> March – Aylmerton Information Evening (see parent mail)
- 27<sup>th</sup> March – End of Term

**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!

