

YEAR 4 CLASS NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 2024

Welcome back! Despite the cold temperatures, we are indeed back for Summer term!



Messages:

Year 4 are coming to school so calm and focused and have showed great independence in the classroom. So we can have a prompt start to the day, please continue to pass any urgent or sensitive messages with Mrs GB or Miss Miller before school (appointments, issues or concerns, important allergies or ailments). The admin email address is admin@escrick.n-yorks.sch.uk . Any brief queries or questions can be written in their reading record or on a piece of paper. This can then be handed to their teacher by the child – or this could be emailed to Mrs GB.

TOPICS and learning

Vikings/map skills and fieldwork (History/Geography)

Our new topic in History is the Vikings. Following on from the Anglo Saxons leaving, we learn about who invaded Britain and why. We will be exploring how the Vikings invaded, what life was like in the Viking city of York and what changes they made to York over time. Our learning also includes studying vocabulary/name changes from Anglo-Saxon, to Viking to modern day and who some of the key leaders of the Viking times were. Linked to our rights respecting project, we will also spend some time looking at Danelaw and how rules and democracy was introduced into society. In Geography, we will be looking closely at maps of York and the surrounding areas and how the land use and settlement structures have changed over time. We will practise our atlas and map skills whilst also carrying out comparisons and studies into how York has changed since Viking times.

Maths

We are continuing to practise our times tables daily through whole class games, mastery maths tasks and flashcards. The Multiplication check will take place in June. In maths we will begin by learning about fractions and decimals. We then move onto measurements and conversions, which will allow us to apply our knowledge of fractions, decimals and calculations from earlier this year. Any practical experience of cooking, baking and measuring at home using weighing scales or measuring jugs is very helpful preparation for this (Knowing what the intervals on a measuring jug equal for example – if 1litre is split into 4 intervals, this will be 250ml per interval).

English

We are looking at both fiction and non-fiction texts this term. Our new story is called 'The Incredible Book Eating Boy' by Oliver Jeffers. This introduces the idea of 'digestion' and human bodies which is our topic in Science this half term. We will be writing dialogue, non-chronological reports and have other opportunities to write creatively linked to this book. We will also be reading 'The Littlest Viking' as part of our History learning.

Science

In Science, we will be learning about the digestive system and the human body. We will follow the journey of food from teeth, chewing, and how food is digested, absorbed and processed inside the body. There will be opportunities to be creative, research, work practically and carry out investigations linked to food and digestion.

Music

In music we have been listening to and appraising different songs from different genres. This half term we will be playing instruments and learning to apply our knowledge of rhythm and pitch to playing along to a song.

Jigsaw PSHE and RE

Our new puzzle piece for Jigsaw PSHE is 'Relationships'. We will be learning about how to navigate different situations in friendships and relationships, such as jealousy and fall outs. In RE we are learning what the meaning of the 'Pentecost' is in Christianity. We consider why it is thought of as a significant date for Christians and how it began the era of 'The Kingdom of God' and our role within it.

Art/D&T

In art, we will be exploring drawing and sketching techniques with still life. We will be using mixed media, collage and drawing techniques to create still life images that are vibrant and 3 dimensional. Don't forget – our chocolate bar project installation will be in York city centre from the 17th – 21st April on or around Parliament Street. Children in Year 4 painted their own wooden disc with their unique chocolate bar design linked to our Charlie and the Chocolate Factory topic, as part of the 2024 Yorkshire Crafts Festival hosted by Made in Yorkshire.

Computing

In computing, we will be using repetition in games on Scratch. We will apply our learning about repetition from Turtle Academy to using repeat blocks in our codes on Scratch.

Spanish

In Spanish we will be learning about 'Mi Casa' or my home. We will build on our prior learning of talking about our families and greetings and think about how we can describe our homes in Spanish.

Timetable and other info

PE and forest school – Wednesday PE, Thursday dance and Friday forest school – every other week.

We continue to have PE on Wednesday afternoons with Ben our PE coach. Dance is on Thursdays with Sam our dance teacher. We have forest school on alternate Friday afternoons, starting on Friday 19th April. Please ensure FULL forest school kit is provided, including wellies/old shoes, and suitable trousers and cover ups/waterproofs depending on the weather. *Even if the weather is WARM (hopefully!) we recommend legs are covered for forest school – this is due to possible brambles and nettles and risk of injury/discomfort if children are in shorts or skirts.*

Spellings and homework

New spellings will be given out on Fridays. These continue to follow the Year 4 spelling rules or include words related to topics learnt. Homework tasks will vary from grammar work, maths tasks and practise to Science activities or other written work and research. As we approach the Year 4 multiplication check, we may also send home times tables tasks or games to play to continue to maintain their fluency with these facts. Homework and spelling books are to be handed in by Thursday at the latest to allow time to mark and return them to children on Friday.

Reading records and reading books – BOOK SWAP!

Children are reading chapter books in group reading and answering comprehension questions linked to these in their English work as part of English lessons. Children in Year 4 are often 'free readers' – they are free to choose books provided by school to take home and read.

BOOK SWAP! One suggestion among parents at parents evening meetings, was to do an informal 'book swap' ahead of the summer holidays. If you have a book/books your child has read and enjoyed, could you arrange to do a swap with another child? This is another great way of finding out about other books you might not have considered and it saves money and is a great way of 'recycling' books and giving them a new home! You could even wrap them up in recycled paper and put a tag on to describe the book – like a mystery read!

Thank you for your continued support, Miss Wilde.