



## Year 4 Summer Term Newsletter

Welcome back to Year 4 and Happy New Year to you all!  
This half term, our value is **GRACE**. After half term our value will be **JOY!**

### English

Our English work will continue to focus around quality texts using The Literacy Tree scheme. It will include a range of drama and practical activities to develop speaking and listening skills and to help the children really engage with and understand a text before writing about it. We will be focusing on the use of accurate grammar and punctuation to ensure the children are ready for their move up to Year 5. We will also be thinking about choosing vocabulary deliberately to establish mood and create impact. We will be consolidating ways to extend our sentences using a range of clauses and punctuation. Additionally, we will be learning more about the themes of books we study and developing our ability to infer meaning and to compare books that we have read.

Guided Reading takes place in class each morning Monday - Thursday. The children are grouped and will be heard to read each week as part of a group with the class teacher. Children will also be heard reading individually on a regular basis. Please read regularly at home with your child as this is vitally important for the development of their reading and writing skills. We appreciate your help to look after your child's reading record. Please ensure they are signed regularly and are kept in your child's book bag.

### Maths

We are beginning the Summer term by looking again at Number. We will consolidate the learning we have already done on Place Value, extending this to look at four and five digit numbers and also to look at decimals (up to two decimal places).

We will also be continuing to introduce and to consolidate written methods of calculation for each of the four operations. We will be focusing on applying knowledge of number and of the four operations to solve problems in a range of practical contexts. We regularly allocate time for the children to practise applying the skills they have learnt to solve one and two step problems, this term we will be encouraging greater independence and asking children to explain how they found their answers.

Timetables will continue to be a key focus. By the end of Year 4, the children are expected to know all their tables from 1 - 12. We will also be revising number bonds, (1 - 10, 10 - 100 and 100 - 1000) and mentally adding or and subtracting 2, 3 or 4 single digit numbers to ensure the children are able to respond to these types of questions quickly and with confidence. We are working hard on this in school, but you can help by practising with your child at home.

### Science

During the first half term our topic will be Electricity. The children will be taught to identify common appliances that run on electricity and to conduct a simple series electrical circuit. They will also learn to recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit, to recognise some common conductors and insulators and associate metals with being good conductors.

After half term we will revise all the work we have done this year in Science and address any misconceptions. We will also be focussing on consolidating our scientific investigation skills: seeking patterns, fair testing, using secondary sources, investigating over time, problem solving and identifying and classifying.

### Homework

Homework continues to be sent home on Friday and should be handed back in by the following Wednesday. Spellings will be sent home on Friday and tested the following Friday. Please ensure your child practises their spellings at home. These will often be linked to a particular spelling pattern or rule each week and it is important that the children recognise this to further their understanding of spelling and grammar. We will continue to send Maths homework, often through the "Mathletics" website. Mrs Fine checks each week to see how children are progressing. If you have any problems please let her know. In addition to this, children should be reading aloud to an adult regularly at home and recording this in their yellow book.

### PPA

Tuesday afternoon continues to be my weekly non-contact time. During this time the children will have a P4C session led by Miss Mitchell followed by P.E, led by Mr Smith.

### P.E

On Tuesday afternoons the children will have P.E with Mr Smith. Mrs Fine will teach a second session on Friday. Please ensure your child has the correct P.E kit: navy blue shorts/tracksuit bottoms and navy blue/yellow T-shirts. Please make sure all items of your child's P.E kit are named. P.E kits should be brought to school on Monday and will be sent home on Friday for washing.

### Expressive Arts

In Art this term, our focus will be on developing the children's sculpting and textiles skills, encouraging their use of a range of materials and facilitating experimentation and creativity. We will largely be teaching Art through Knowledge and Understanding of the World but also through our first Literacy Tree text. In Music, the children will continue learning to play the glockenspiel!

### Dates for your diary:

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May: May Day Bank Holiday  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May: Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call, Y4 go to Southwark Cathedral  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May: Y3 and Y4 trip to Natural History Museum  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June: INSET  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June: Group Photos  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June: Parent Meeting for Y5 residential to Hindleap Warren 3:30 - 4:30pm  
Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June: PTFA Summer Fair 12:00 - 3:15pm  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June: Sports Day  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July: Last Day of term  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July: INSET

### Philosophy and PSHE

This term we will continue to teach Philosophy for Children to facilitate critical and deeper thinking and provide opportunities for children to practise these skills. The children have begun to consider a range of topics in more depth and are learning to listen with care and build on what others have said. In P.S.H.E, we use our school values as the basis of our work; Grace and Joy.

### RE

This term the children will be learning about miracles that Jesus carried out. We will be reading some of Jesus' miracles and discussing what they may teach. We will also be exploring the difference between a miracle and magic.

In the second half of term, we will be learning about Sikhism and specifically, what Sikhs believe. We will learn the story of the Khalsa and about the Amrit ceremony.

### Knowledge and Understanding of the World

Our main topic this term will be The Americas. This topic combines a range of subjects including Geography and Art. We will be using maps and atlases to locate the Americas and will look in more detail at the physical geography of the region, including a study of how volcanoes and earthquakes occur. We will be visiting the Natural History Museum to find out more about earthquakes.

We will also be looking at the differing climates across the continents and learning about a range of environmental issues such as deforestation and the effect this has on people, plants and animals living in the region.

### Finally...

If you have any quick questions or concerns please feel free to catch us in the playground in the morning before school or at the end of the day. We are very happy to answer your queries and it is always good to see you! If you would like to speak with us more privately, please contact the school office to arrange an appointment. We look forward to yet another fun-packed term of learning!

Miss Morris, Mrs Fine and Miss Mitchell

