



Holdbrook Primary and Nursery School

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term - 2016

Dear Parents / Carers

English

- Our class reading books will be *The Thieves Of Ostia*, the first book in the Roman Mysteries series, followed by *Alice's Adventures In Wonderland*. These link nicely to our Topic work.
- In addition to our class novels, we will be reading a range of other texts, including short stories, poems and many pieces of non-fiction, linking these to our Topics as much as possible. These genres will be reflected in the range of writing that children produce.
- Pupils will be encouraged to proof read their work to identify and correct basic errors in spelling and punctuation, e.g. capital letters to begin sentences and proper nouns.
- Correct grammar will be a major focus this term. This will include using the correct form of verbs, e.g. *we were* and not *we was*.
- We are also going to be looking closely at handwriting, ensuring that all letters and numbers are formed correctly.



Mathematics



- We will be focusing on consolidating multiplication and division facts already taught. These facts will link to work on formal methods multiplication, e.g. 462×3 .
- Pupils will learn how and when to use efficient formal written methods for addition and subtraction. This will be applied to real life problem solving.
- We will investigate the effect of multiplying and dividing whole numbers and decimals by 10, 100 and 1000. This will link to work on converting between measures, e.g. changing grams into kilograms.
- Pupils will be classifying and comparing 2D shapes, identifying lines of symmetry, plotting co-ordinates and finding perimeters.
- The class will develop their ability to tell time on both analogue and digital clocks and to solve problems about time.
- Children will be working with numbers beyond 1000, negative numbers, fractions and decimals.

Cornerstones Topic - I Am Warrior

Our topic this half term has a history focus. Pupils will be learning about life in Britain at the time of the Roman Empire. As part of this work, the class will visit Verulamium Museum in St Albans. Our work here will link into other areas of the curriculum. Art & Design will involve studying Roman mosaics and creating our own. In Design & Technology, pupils will make Roman shields and discover what the Romans ate at mealtimes. They will develop their Geography skills by analysing maps of the Roman Empire and comparing Italy with the UK.



Cornerstones Topic - Potions

Our topic next half term has a science focus. Pupils will develop their understanding of different materials and the properties of solids, liquids and gases. Throughout the topic they will build on the scientific skills of questioning, investigating and measuring. This will have close links with maths. In history they will find out about the historic use of potions. In Design & Technology children will learn about product development. There will be an opportunity to develop some fantastic dances too.

Religious Education & PSHE

For the majority of the term we will be learning about Hinduism. Children will find out about Hindu gods, shrines and festivals. As Christmas approaches, we will learn about the significance of Advent in the Christian faith. Our PSHE will focus on setting goals and developing personal resilience and a 'can-do' attitude.



Physical Education



In PE we will be participating in team building exercises and competitive team sports. It is important that pupils have the correct kit for all PE sessions.

In addition to the above, the children will be participating in foreign language lessons.

Homework

- Pupils are expected to do at least 25 minutes of homework each night. This could include number facts recall, spelling, handwriting and reading.
- In addition to the above, activities will be set each week from the new English and Maths homework books. This homework is set on a Thursday and is to be returned to school on the following Monday.

