



## Holdbrook Primary and Nursery School

### Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter Spring Term - 2017

Dear Parents / Carers

#### English

- Our class reading books will be *The Indian In the Cupboard*, followed by *Treasure Island*. 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, edit and improve their writing before producing final versions for an audience to read.
- Correct grammar will continue to be a major focus. This will include understanding Standard English and knowing when to use it.
- Pupils will be extending their understanding of sentence structures and their use of precise vocabulary to create the desired effect.



#### Mathematics



- We will be focusing on extending knowledge of multiplication and division facts to  $12 \times 12$  and identifying factors and multiples.
- Formal written methods of addition, subtraction and multiplication will be applied to problem solving.
- Pupils will consolidate their understanding of perimeter and learn how to find the area of shapes. They will also learn about different quadrilaterals and how to translate shapes.
- The class will learn to tell the time using 24 time on analogue and digital clocks. They will be solving problems involving all units of time.
- Children will continue to work with numbers beyond 1000, negative numbers and fractions. This term there will be an increased focus on using and understanding decimals.
- There will be an additional focus on investigations this term, where pupils will be able to develop their confidence and understanding of mathematics.

## Cornerstones Topic - Road Trip USA

Year Four have already enjoyed a whole day of American dancing. Our topic this half term has a strong focus on Geography. The children will be developing their mapwork skills by identifying key geographical features of our planet. Pupils will be learning about modern day USA, including the location of key states and cities. They will be finding out about important historical characters, especially twentieth century icons and Native Americans. Later in the half term we will be linking the bright lights of Las Vegas and Times Square to our understanding of electricity and circuits. Throughout the half term, pupils will consolidate their understanding of PowerPoint and coding.



## Cornerstones Topic - The Blue Abyss

Our topic next half term has an art and design focus. Pupils will develop their art skills through observational drawing and modelling. They will find out about the work of famous artists focusing on seascapes. There will be a scientific link, where children will find out about animals that live in the sea. Using maps, they will continue to develop their knowledge of key geographical features, focusing on seas and oceans. We will find out about nineteenth century ocean exploration.

## Religious Education & PSHE

For the majority of the term we will be learning about Sikhism. Children will find out about the Five Ks Sikh traditions and ceremonies. As Easter approaches, we will learn about the significance of the Last Supper in the Christian faith. Our PSHE will focus on friendships and working together as a team.



## Physical Education



In PE we will be participating in competitive sports, dancing and gymnastics. It is important that pupils have the correct kit for all PE sessions, including a tracksuit for outdoor weather.

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

## Homework

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

