

Year 4 Spring Terms 1 & 2 2018

Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful break and are all refreshed and raring to go for the Spring Term.

Key dates for the diary

- **Friday 19th January** – Trip to Southwark Cathedral (both classes) (£5.80 per child)
- **Tuesday 30th (4P) and Thursday 1st February (4D)** – Rivers Immersion Day to Surrey Quays
Half term: 12th February – 16th February
- **Monday 26th February – Friday 2nd March** – Book Week (Don't forget to have your Book Week related costumes ready)
- **Wednesday 21st March** – 4P Class Assembly at 3pm
- **Monday 12th (4D) and Tuesday 12th March (4P)** – Trip to London Wetlands Trust (£7.10 per child)
- **Friday 23rd March** – Parent Conference Day (No school for children)
- **Monday 26th to Thursday 29th March** – Intensive Swimming Programme at Alleyn's
Last day of term – March 29th (2pm finish)
- **Friday 29th June** – Bush craft day at Winkworth Arboretum, Godalming (Price TBC)

You have probably spotted Bush craft day on our list of key dates! Find out all about this exciting new trip for Year 4 at a meeting for parents on Wednesday 21st February at 3:40pm in 4D.

Rather excitingly, this term we are launching a new growth mind-set initiative at Heber Primary School. With a growth mind-set, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication, hard work and a positive attitude to challenge. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishments. At Heber we wish for all our children to have a growth mind-set. We have already started to explore the power of 'Yet'. Rather than a child saying "I can't do this," they'll be encouraged to say "I can't do this, yet", giving them the mind-set that with hard work and extra effort, achievement will follow.

English

We will be working on a range of genres including: narrative fiction, information texts and poetry. This term our class texts will be:

Cautionary Verses: We will be exploring the concept of Cautionary Verses through the poems of Hilaire Belloc. The children will experiment with rhyme, including how to make it relevant, and will shape their own poem using rhyming couplets.

Flotsam: A wordless text which encourages the children to write imaginatively, building on their ability to use adventurous noun phrases and a range of multi-clause sentences.

Maths

Maths is now divided into the following blocks which will be covered in depth during the course of the term.

Week1: Measurement – Perimeter and Length: Convert between different units of measure e.g. kilometre to metre, measure and calculate the perimeter of rectilinear figure (including squares) in cm and m.

Weeks 2 to 4: Number – Multiplication and Division (Mental methods) Recall and use multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 x 12, count in multiples of 6,7, 9,25 and 1000, use place value, known and derived facts to multiply and divide mentally, solve problems involving multiplying and adding.

Weeks 5 to 7: Number – Multiplication and Division (Formal methods)

Use place value, known and derived facts to multiply and divide mentally, including: multiplying by 0 and 1; dividing by 1; multiplying together three numbers. Recognise and use factor pairs and commutativity in mental calculations. Multiply two digit and three digit numbers by a one digit number using formal written layout.

Solve problems involving multiplying and adding, including using the distributive law to multiply two digit numbers by one digit, integer scaling problems and harder correspondence problems such as n objects are connected to m objects.

Week 8: Area

Applying multiplication skills to find the area of regular and irregular polygons.

Weeks 9 to 11: Fractions:

Understanding the concept of a fraction, finding equivalent fractions using concrete representations and finding fractions of numbers and amounts.

Science:

States of Matter

The children will be learning how to compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases. They will observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius (°C). They will identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.

Living things and their habitats

The children will be learning to recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. They will explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment. They will investigate how environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things

Spring Term Topic: RAGING RIVERS

Our learning theme 'Rivers' is a cross curricular unit. The children will be learning through Geography, Art, and DT lessons linked to the topic of 'Rivers'. We will be focusing on learning about the River Thames for this topic, but will branch out to look at rivers around both the UK and the world. Children will learn about the water cycle, and various key aspects to understanding a river, such as where they originate, how they grow and where they end, their various features and why they are so important. We will also look at the damage caused by river pollution and flooding, and how these can be prevented. Children will also be learning how to use maps to locate rivers and the towns and cities that they pass through; for the UK and Europe.

Art

Light and Water: We will research the ideas and artists of Impressionism, responding in sketchbooks to Monet and his pond paintings as well as the works he created based on the river Thames. We will produce and evaluate a finished piece based on this learning.

Computing:

Starting this term, we are changing the way that Computing is taught. We will take a topic based approach to teach the three aspects of the subject in fun and exciting new ways. In Spring 1, the children will produce a piece of backing music to accompany linking to the topic on rivers. In Spring 2, the children will learn about the history of the world wide web, before studying HTML (hypertext mark-up language), the language in which web pages are written. They will learn to edit and write HTML, and then use this knowledge to create a web page about rivers.

PE

The focus will be on the physical and creative skills necessary for sport. They will also work on their agility and balance through indoor climbing activities. The children will have opportunities to perform common ball sports such as football and basketball more confidently and will also be able to use tactics and make up their own ideas. There will be an emphasis on showing patience, listening carefully and explaining your ideas thoughtfully.

Indoor PE:

- The P.E. kit for indoor P.E is plain shorts, a plain T shirt and bare feet.

Outdoor PE:

- For outdoor P.E children will need to be dressed for the cold weather - bring trainers / plimsolls and tracksuit bottoms as well as coats, scarves, hats and gloves.

R.E

- The focus is Judaism this term. Children will learn about the story and meaning of Passover, with a focus on Jewish celebrations and special meals.

P.S.H.E

Children will begin 2018 by setting goals for themselves, and discussing the importance of taking responsibility for their own learning and behaviour in the SEAL topic of 'Going for Goals!' After the half term holiday we move onto the popular SEAL topic of 'It's good to be me!' in which children identify their strengths as individuals and learners, and learn how to acknowledge and praise the strengths of those around them.

Music

We will be using the song 'I'm Yours' in our learning. We will study the song in terms of tempo, mood and style, and develop our instrumental skills on the ukulele. We will develop into paired and group performances of our chosen song. We will also be learning how to represent, read and compose rhythms and melodies on the musical stave.

Home Learning:

- Spelling lists will go home weekly. Children will be tested on those words the following week. Help your child with their weekly spelling list. The transfer of these skills is very important. Spellodrome is an online resource that can be accessed using the same password as Mathletics.
- Mathletics, TT Rockstars or My maths should be used at least once a week. Year 4 children should be choosing topics on Mathletics that link to the Maths covered in class that week.
- Reading every day is expected.
- On occasion children will be asked to carry out extra home learning projects that link to their topic.
- Talk to your child about their day at school.
- Help your children to learn the times tables and related division facts for each times table up to 12 x 12.
- Support your child in learning how to tell the time on analogue and digital clocks to the nearest minute.

If you have any concerns that you need to discuss please contact the office to make an appointment with your child's class teacher.

We are happy for you to take Maths and English books home to look at over the weekend; however, we will require them on Monday morning.

Thank you so far for all your help and support this academic year.

Yours sincerely,

The Year 4 Team