

# YEAR 4 STARLINGS NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents,

I would like to start by taking this opportunity to welcome you to Year 4. It is brilliant to have all the children back and I hope you had a lovely summer. Year 4 will bring new challenges and exciting opportunities for the children. It is important that together we encourage them to approach everything they do with a positive attitude.

## Maths

In our Maths lessons, we will be covering the following areas: place value, adding and subtracting numbers, and multiplication and division. We will develop the children's conceptual understanding of mathematics by using concrete objects, pictorial representations and abstract thinking.

## English

This term in English, we will be reading 'Charlotte's web' and 'The Polar Express'. Our writing pieces will be based around these texts.

Alongside our work on our class novels, we will continue to practise our comprehension skills, handwriting skills, learn and practise spellings and improve our grammar.

## History

In History, we will be learning about the Anglo Saxons. The children will suggest reasons for the Anglo-Saxons invasion of Britain, make inference about artefacts and describe how Anglo-Saxon beliefs changed.

The children will also explain the threat the Vikings posed to the Anglo-Saxons.

## Science

During the first half term, our topic will be Animals including humans. The children will learn about the digestive system, describing what happens in each part. They will also learn about the four types of teeth and their functions.

After half term, our topic will be Living things and their habitats. Here the children will learn about living things in a range of habitats and the key features that helped them to identify them.

## P.E

On Tuesday the children will have P.E. Please ensure your child has the correct P.E kit on these days: black shorts/tracksuit bottoms and white T-shirts. Children will need a hoody/sweatshirt for outdoor PE. Please make sure all items of your child's P.E kit are named.

## Reading

Just a few minutes reading with your child each day makes a huge difference. Please ensure your child has their reading book in school every day. We appreciate your help to look after your child's reading book and record. Please ensure the reading record is signed regularly and is kept in your child's book bag.

## Geography

In Geography, we will look at why the rainforest is important to us. We will state the location and some key features of the Amazon rainforest and look at ways the indigenous peoples use the Amazon's resources.

The children will also take part in fieldwork in our local woodland.

## PSHE

During the first half term, our topic will be 'Being Me in My World'. Here the children will learn how they fit into the school community, understand how democracy works in school, their roles and responsibilities and how they can contribute to the overall outcome in their group.

After the half term, our topic will be 'Celebrating Difference'. The children will identify what is special about them, appreciate their unique features and learn to accept people the way they are.

## Homework

Homework will 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 on **Spelling Shed**. These will increasingly 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 also send Maths homework, often.

## Uniform

Please check all items of your child's uniform, coats and bags are clearly labelled to help them become more responsible and independent.

## Important information

In Year 4, there is a big emphasis on **times tables** and learning the times tables securely. Year 4 will be tested in their times tables at the beginning of June, so it is very important that your child is practising these at home. They can do this by:

- Logging onto Timestables Rockstars at home (10 mins per day)
- Practising them with a parent

## YEAR 4 PUPILS

During your time in Year 4 we will expect you to:

- ◆ Always put in 100% effort.
- ◆ Aim to have 100% attendance (research shows that there is a direct link between fantastic end of year results and extremely high attendance).
- ◆ Be kind and considerate to everyone.
- ◆ Do your homework to a high standard and hand it in on time
- ◆ Read every night with an adult at home.
- ◆ Practise your spellings and times table.
- ◆ Look after your own things.
- ◆ Make sure you wear the correct uniform with the appropriate footwear.
- ◆ Have your PE kit at school.

Do these and you will FLY HIGH!

If you have any quick questions or concerns, please feel free to catch us in the morning before school or at the end of the day. Ms Herrington and I 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 a successful year of learning and love!