



STARLINGS AUTUMN 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 our conceptual understanding of mathematics by using concrete objects, pictorial representations and abstract thinking throughout each topic that we cover.

We will also work on securing quick recall of the times tables. Please encourage your child to practise these at home. They can do this by:

- Logging onto Times Tables Rockstars or Hit the button at home (10 mins per day).
- Practising them with a parent.

English

During the first half term, we will be working with the Roald Dahl book 'The Twits'. We will use this text as inspiration for our own writing and will complete both a character description and a persuasive letter. During the second half term, we will be reading 'The Polar Express' and writing in a variety of genres in response to this text.

We will also continue to develop our comprehension skills using 'Matilda' by Roald Dahl. We will also practise our handwriting skills and improve our grammar.

Spelling

Please encourage your child to practise their spellings that are sent home each week.

History/Geography

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.

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

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.

In the second half of the term, we will investigate Electricity. We will look at how electricity is conducted as well as the materials which insulate and keep us safe from the current.

P.E

On Tuesdays we will have P.E. Please ensure your child comes to school in the correct P.E kit on these days: shorts/tracksuit bottoms and white T-shirts. **Please make sure all items of your child's P.E kit are named.**

Uniform

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

PSHE/RE

This term, we will be learning about Christianity and what Jesus wanted in the world. We will be looking at texts from the bible and comparing these.

In PSHE, we will be thinking about how we can make healthy choices to be a healthier, happier person.

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.

Important information

In Year 4, there is a big emphasis on times tables and learning them 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 Times Tables Rockstars at home (10 mins per day)
- Practising them with a parent
- Any other fun ways your child wishes to explore in order to learn them!

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 to your teachers.
- 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 questions or concerns, feel free to catch Miss Paskin, Mrs Wood or Mrs Jackson-Fenton before school or at the end of the day. 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!