

Year 4 Newsletter – Spring Term 1



Dear Parents/Carers:

We would like to wish you a joyful Happy New Year! We are very excited to continue working with your children, as they have got off to a great start. We hope you all had a restful holiday and wish you all a warm welcome back!

As per usual, the following is an overview of what your child will be taught in the first half of the Spring term, as well as some general timetabling information.

Our big question for this term is 'Can learning from the past teach us to improve?' We will use this question to draw links across the curriculum from science enquiries involving observations over time to reflecting on the impact fairy tales and fables. We will also look at how this question links to our school values particularly responsibility and partnership.

In **English**, we will delve into the exciting world of **Ancient Egypt**. To engage the children, they will be exploring life in Ancient Egypt, it's key landmarks; Egyptian gods, Egyptian fairy tales and ultimately creating their own fairy tales.

We will be continuing our **Reading** program: Destination Reader. We would like you to discuss the key skills of reading with your children (predicting, making connections, asking questions, evaluating, inferring, summarising and clarifying).

Our **Maths** focus this half-term will include: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will be solving word problems, developing our ability to explain and check our working out. We will also be taking part in maths investigations. Children will also be practicing mental math strategies and arithmetic with a particular focus on times tables. We will have a times tables test every Wednesday – please check our homework sheet to see which times tables will be tested.

Our **History** topic will be **Ancient Egypt**. Alongside this newsletter you have received a knowledge organiser. This contains an overview of key knowledge for your child's History topic this term. Please encourage your child to become familiar with the knowledge contained in the organiser at home, as this will allow for more focus on historical skills, rather than knowledge, within lessons.

In **Science**, our topic will be about **States of Matter**. We will be investigating and exploring the different physical states of matter and how they can change in different conditions.

In **Art**, we will be studying **Indian Art**. The children will be learning about patterns and layering in the style of Indian Art. They will create intricate designs and explore hand henna.

Our overarching theme in **Religion** this term is: **“How do Hindus Worship?”**. We will learn about what the various images and different means of worship in the Hindu faith.

Physical Education will be on **Wednesday**. This term, our topic is **Dance and Athletics**. Physical education will take place outside this term (unless raining), please ensure your child has the correct kit on this day. The PE sessions will be led by Anna who is the lead member of staff for PE at St Luke’s.

In **French** this half-term, our French teacher Mme Col will be building the children’s understanding of the language and giving them the chance to practice in different contexts.

Finally, in **Music** children will be exploring rhythm and melody within the Ancient Egyptian culture. This will be demonstrated through singing, movement and dance.

Homework will be set for the half term on with a focus on numeracy and literacy work with a list of spellings. We would also strongly encourage all children to complete a homework project. This half term we would like to see children be creative and present a 3D story map of their favourite Fairy Tale. In addition to this, your child will be assigned **15-20 minutes of reading every night**. We will also have spelling and times table tests every Wednesdays. If you wish to receive more homework you should have already filled in a slip however, please let us know if you haven’t.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

Mr Akinyemi, Ms. Dewan, Steve, Alasma and Isabelle

The Year 4 Teaching Team

