

Class 4 Newsletter

Autumn Term

So that you feel clear about the teaching and learning intentions for the Autumn Term 2016, please enjoy reading this overview. If you have any skills, resources or experiences that you could share with us on this topic, we would love for you to share them with us.

This term the children will undertake a Science, Numeracy and Literacy based project on The Magical World of Harry Potter! The children will once again form a company ~ this time it will specialise in an aspect of Harry's world yet to be decided ~ the hot favourite is house related confectionary and drinks to support the Science work with lots of chemical changes, reversible and irreversible.

Within the Science aspect they will discover and investigate the important properties of matter, with focussed tasks exploring their physical states, their density, their mass, solubility etc. Chemical reactions between substances, the kind that most people experience in their everyday life, will be looked at, with a nod to the famous chemists, Marie Curie and Louis Pasteur who did wonders for the medical world! Simple changes of matter can be seen in the kitchen when food freeze, combine or cook ~ you could talk about this in your very own Great British Bake Off ☺

Numeracy will be an integral part as emphasis will be placed on data collection, presentation and interpretation. Place value and the four rules of number will be taught as discreet sessions. Where possible, statistics and fractions will be linked to science as the science curriculum uses maths throughout most focus areas and is key to making learning real.

Literacy work will focus on the structure and language of writing letters for different audiences, such as chatty to friends and formal in business. This is a great opportunity to be reinforced at home through thank you letters and other correspondences ~ ringing the changes from instant message, email to the old-fashioned letter. Creative narrative will be inspired by the novels of JK Rowling and Alfred Noyes' "The Highwayman" will be studied in Guided Reading to teach inference skills and supporting opinions with evidence and figurative language will be revised.

Computing skills will be integrated through the project and homework tasks and the children will learn how to design and write algorithms too ~ 'instructions' to most. Try getting your child to explain a simple activity such as making a glass of juice at home and see if it would work ~ experience says there is always something missed out!

In PSHE, they will be taught about 'Relationships', looking at those that are referenced in 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone'. As Harry Potter films were set partly in Alnwick Castle, castles will be discussed, in addition to comparisons with Lincoln and significant turning points in British history, such as the Magna Carta and Lincoln Castle.

In PE, the children will undertake various activities, in particular rugby and netball - traditional team sports.

Mrs Johnstone and Mrs Dennant

Homework:

For homework, in line with our recent consultation, the whole school will be following the same format focusing on two key strands: READING book and a HOMEWORK book.

We would like to see reading happen as regularly as possible and homework will be sent on FRIDAY, to be returned the following WEDNESDAY.

Any task set should last approximately 20 minutes per subject area.

Messages:

P.E will take place on Wednesday and Friday.

Please ensure that your child has a labelled kit that can be kept in school.

They will sometimes need some warm kit for outdoor weather.