



Yarm Primary School
Part of the Enquire Learning Trust
Spitalfields
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Dear Parents/Carers

We would like to wish you all happy and prosperous New Year. It is lovely to welcome the children back after their Christmas break and we look forward to developing their continued positive attitude towards learning. We have planned an exciting, challenging and enjoyable Spring Term.

Year 4 Staff

Class 4LC taught by Mrs Chisholm Class 4AP taught by Mr Painter

Mr Robinson and Miss Icton support the Year 4 team.

Mr Parry and Miss Metcalf, Miss Able and Miss Condren will also be supporting our learning this term.

Main topic

Our main topic this term is MOUNTAINS. We will start by looking at the different types and how they are formed and merge into our second topic after half term, which will focus on SCANDINAVIA and environmental issues.

English

In English we will write an explanation text on the formation of the different types of mountains, before writing a newspaper report on an exciting find in the Alps near the border of Austria and Italy.

We will be reading a selection of Troll fables (linked to our Geography topic of Scandinavia), and writing our own Troll Tale, to be shared with Lower School. In addition to this, we will use persuasive writing techniques linked to current environmental issues. There will also be a link to performance poetry. Grammar, punctuation and spelling remains a major focus in the daily English lessons.

Maths

Maths will continue to follow the new White Rose framework. Multiplication, division, area, fractions and decimals are the main areas of learning this term, with an emphasis on fluency, reasoning and problem solving. Multiplication tables will continue to be a major focus for year 4, but more so this year with the introduction of the Government's new online Multiplication Tables test. It is **very** important that the children have rapid recall of multiplication tables and can also derive the associated division facts. Children will also be challenged with speed tables. We would appreciate your continued help in aiding your children to learn these at home and undertake regular practice through the use of the Times Tables Rock Stars online practice programme. If you require any help with how you can approach this, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Science

In science we will study States of Matter, looking at the properties of solids, liquids and gases and changes such as condensation and evaporation. We will also look at the water cycle.

ICT

Within ICT we will revisit key themes within E-Safety and we will build on the programming work already undertaken within Scratch. Moreover, we are using a range of different software to continue to develop the children's programming, presentational and research skills. Through using ICT to support our wider curriculum work, the children will also develop their understanding of online/digital mapping software/route planning.

Foundation subjects

In **Geography** we will use research and map skills in order to answer our enquiry questions, "How high can I climb?" and "Scandinavian Countries - Are they environmental leaders?" **Art** and **DT** will be delivered through these topic themes. Mr Newton will deliver music sessions each week to both classes with cross-curricular sessions linked to the Music of the Mountains and Norse Gods.

Our **Religious Education** work is focused on the study the Christian Easter story and aspects of Buddhist beliefs and celebrations. We will continue to promote Social and Emotional aspects of learning - making personal goals, keeping safe and healthy, friendship and anti-bullying.

P.E. will take place every week with sessions covering a range of skills and invasion games. These sessions will be outdoors (weather permitting). Please ensure the children have the correct kit - shorts or leggings depending on the weather, T-shirt, sweatshirt and trainers. If children do not bring their own PE kit, a replacement kit will be provided by school so that participation in this important lesson can still go ahead.

GROWTH MINDSET - our focus on developing a Growth Mindset will continue.

MINDFULNESS - The children complete a daily mindfulness activity throughout the year to enhance wellbeing for learning.

Homework

Homework will be set every Friday and we expect this to be completed and returned to school by the following Thursday or Friday at the latest. The weekly homework will be a spelling rule or a set of spellings to learn each night. Maths homework will focus around the multiplication tables, including some word problems. The use of 'Times Tables Rock Stars' will continue and we hope that you can support your children with this at home where/when possible.

We will also be sending out a Homework grid each half term in which the tasks are carefully devised to support pupils' learning; we aim to provide stimulating and enriching homework activities. Examples of high quality homework, where applicable, will be displayed in the Y4 classrooms and display areas around school. A copy of the Year 3 /4 spelling list will be reissued. We ask for parental help in familiarising children with these words. All children will have opportunities to read in school on a daily basis; however we would like all children to read at least three times a week at home. Reading journals must be returned, signed and dated, by Friday.

Prime Time

Please make sure the children have a healthy snack (fruit, vegetables or breadsticks) and water (in a securely lidded bottle) for Prime Time.

Parents' Evening

We look forward to seeing you at Parents' Evening on **Monday 11th February or Tuesday 12th February**, to share information on your child's progress. A sign-up sheet will be in the Year 4 corridor in the week prior to these dates.

We thank you for your continued support. We are looking forward to a fabulous term.

Year 4 team - Mrs Chisholm, Mr Painter and Y4 Team.

accident	century	experiment	interest	particular	remember
accidentally	certain	extreme	island	peculiar	sentence
actual	circle	famous	knowledge	perhaps	separate
actually	complete	favourite	learn	popular	special
address	consider	February	length	position	straight
answer	continue	forward(s)	library	possess	strange
appear	decide	fruit	material	possession	strength
arrive	describe	grammar	medicine	possible	suppose
believe	different	group	mention	potatoes	surprise
bicycle	difficult	guard	minute	pressure	therefore
breath	disappear	guide	natural	probably	though
breathe	early	heard	naughty	promise	although
build	earth	heart	notice	purpose	thought
busy	eight	height	occasion	quarter	through
business	eighth	history	occasionally	question	various
calendar	enough	imagine	often	recent	weight
caught	exercise	increase	opposite	regular	woman
centre	experience	important	ordinary	reign	women

