

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter – Summer Term 2024

Please read this termly newsletter, it is intended to help you to assist your son or daughter with their studies and is an extension of our home-school partnership. In such a newsletter, we can only provide a brief outline, but we hope it will give some idea of the areas that we shall be covering this term. Other information can also be found on our website – www.heronsgate.org.uk.

Year 4 Staff

Swans: Mrs Dimmock – Lower Key stage Phase Leader
Herons: Ms Cogger
Moorhens: Mr Bowskill



CURRICULUM NEWS – History

This project teaches children about the history of three of the world's first ancient civilisations: ancient Sumer, ancient Egypt and the Indus Valley civilisation. Children will learn about the rise, life, achievements and eventual end of each civilisation.

English: We will be focus on writing a range of different text types, including:

Non-chronological reports, explanations, writing instructions, persuasive writing, recounts and poetry. There will be a strong emphasis on talking and rehearsing before writing, as well as reading, editing and improving written work.

Spellings: Children will focus on 10 words a week, which will be sent home with the half termly homework project. Whilst we will practice these through our spelling practice sessions, it would be highly beneficial for them to practise these at home too.

Guided Reading: Guided reading sessions will take place 4 times a week. During these sessions, children will take part in focused VIPER reading activities to develop their understanding of different text types and become immersed in a class text. They will be encouraged to ask questions and make appropriate inferences based on what they have read.

Maths: There will be a focus on Geometry, Position and Movement, Area and Perimeter and Roman Numerals. Timestables are a key focus in Year 4 as children will be expected to take the Year 4 assessment at the end of the year. They will practice their times table facts through regular access to TT Rockstars and Fast Maths at school, but further practice at home is strongly encouraged.

Design and Technology: At the end of this unit children will produce a range of free standing pavilions, using a frame that is strong, stable and aesthetically pleasing.

Art: In art, the children will understand how William Morris used repeating patterns in his work.

Geography: This essential skills and knowledge of Interconnect World teaches children about compass points and four and six-figure grid references. They learn about the tropics and the countries, climates and culture of North and South America. Children identify physical features in the United Kingdom and learn about the National Rail and canal networks. They conduct an enquiry to prove a hypothesis, gathering data from maps and surveys before drawing conclusions.

Science: This project teaches children about electrical appliances and safety. They construct simple series circuits and name their parts and functions, including switches, wires and cells. They investigate electrical conductors and insulators and identify common features of conductors. It also teaches children about programmable devices. They combine their learning to design and make a nightlight.

Computing: Our computing lessons will develop pupils knowledge across digital literacy, online safety, computational thinking, how computers work and hardware.

PE: Children will have two sessions per week, one outdoors ('Games') and one indoors ('P.E.'). This is a compulsory part of the curriculum and to maximise the time the children are active; they are allowed to attend school on these days 'PE ready'. This means your child is expected to attend school in their P.E. kit on the days they have P.E. and Games lessons. During the summer term, the children will develop their abilities through fitness, rounders and cricket.

PE READY DAYS: Children come to school in PE kit on the following days:

Swans: Monday and Wednesday

Hérons: Monday and Thursday

Moorhens: Monday and Thursday

Homework: Half termly projects linked to the topic will continue to be set, with a choice of different styles of presentation for children to choose from. They may complete one or two tasks. It must be completed to a high standard and handed in on or before the last Monday of each half term. All homework projects will be shared with the class and 5 Marvellous Me points awarded for effort, content and presentation. In addition, a weekly Maths activity will be sent home on Mondays and will be due in by Thursday of the same week. This will be given via paper and stuck into the yellow homework book to be handed in the following week. The task will be marked with the teacher before the next week's homework is handed out. Maths homework will be rewarded with 1 MME point, if brought in on time.

How can you support your child at home?

- Hear your child read at least 3 times a week
- Encourage them to practise their weekly spellings and TTRockstars
- Encourage them to use their mental maths to add, subtract, multiply and divide numbers in everyday life, for example there are 7 weeks left of term – how many days at school is that?
- Support your child in learning to tell the time.
- Support them with their homework projects – we don't mind if it is a team effort!



TRIPS & ACTIVITIES:

Further information will be sent out to parents about our Year 4 residential to Caldecotte Xperience which will be on 10th to 11th June 2024. All children are invited to join in with the daily activities. There will be an opportunity for children to stay over for the evening. Please also look out for an invitation to attend a parent's information evening for those attending the sleepover part.

