

Dragonfly Class
January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year ! We hope you have had a great Christmas break. We are very much looking forward starting our new Topics and continuing our Journey in Year 4.

Topic – Rocks, Relics and Rumbles.

English

In English, your child will be reading the class novel ‘ Escape From Pompeii’ by

They will complete reading comprehension tasks linking to this novel. In addition, they will be writing a non chronological report about Earth. Children will be able to explain the meaning of words based on the context, using a dictionary where appropriate. Identify key details in a text in response to a retrieval question or research task. Plan, discuss and record ideas in notes on a planning sheet, using similar writing to learn from its structure and vocabulary. To then use simple organisational devices when writing a non-narrative text.

Furthermore, Children will have the opportunity to write poems. Poetry is an opportunity to encourage children’s creativity and develop their use of language. Your child will be challenged to include expanded noun phrases to add detail to their writing and read their poems aloud to check for sense and rhythm

In Term 4, your child will write a newspaper report about an earthquake. Newspaper report writing teaches children to group ideas into paragraphs and write in a clear, concise style. The children will interview each other as ‘eyewitnesses’ of the earthquake and record quotations to use in their newspaper reports. They will edit and redraft their reports, using them to create a class newspaper about the earthquake.

Your child will also have daily spelling/ phonics lessons.

Maths

This term children will be introduced to factors for the first time. They learn that when they multiply two whole numbers to give a product, both the numbers that they multiplied together are factors of the product.

Your child will be multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100. As well as multiplying and dividing 2 digit numbers by 1 digit numbers using a written method. They will move onto measure and measure in kilometres and metres and find equivalent lengths. Your child will also find perimeters of grids, rectangles and regular polygons.

Science

In the Forces and Magnets project, your child will learn what forces are and what they do. They will learn about pushing and pulling forces and sort different actions into pushes and

pulls. They will identify and explain contact forces. They will learn about and investigate frictional forces. They will use force meters to measure the forces needed to carry out everyday tasks and record their measurements. They will learn about magnetism (a non-contact force) and explore bar magnets. They will find out about magnetic attraction, repulsion and magnetic fields. They will test the magnetic properties of different objects. They will learn about the magnetism of the Earth and how this enables compasses to work. They will use this knowledge to make compasses. They will learn about the uses of friction and magnetism and carry out research. They will use different methods to investigate the strength of magnets.

RE

In RE children will be exploring what kind of world Jesus would want. Children will identify this as part of a 'Gospel', which tells the story of the life and teaching of Jesus. They will make clear links between the calling of the first disciples and how Christians today try to follow Jesus and be 'fishers of people'. Offer suggestions about what Jesus' actions towards the leper might mean for a Christian. Make simple links between Bible texts and the concept of 'Gospel' (good news). Give examples of how Christians try to show love to all, including how members of the clergy follow Jesus' teaching.

ICT

This unit is the first of the two programming units in Year 4, and looks at repetition and loops within programming. Pupils will create programs by planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. They will use Logo, a text-based programming language.

Reading and Home Learning

Your child will receive a reading book. They will be expected to bring in their reading planner and book daily, if they have finished their book and a new book will be sent home. If your child wishes to continue reading their book it will not be changed. It is important that your child reads daily so that they are able to make as much progress as possible. Please fill their reading record in at home to show the reading your child has completed. Do let us know if they have enjoyed the book. We do also like hearing about any other books they have been reading at home. Children are able to complete their AR quizzes at home using their personal log in and username (found in their reading record). If your child can not complete the quiz at home they will have the opportunity to complete it in school.

Maths homework will continue to be set via the MyMaths website on a Friday. Your child's login is stuck into their homework book.

Your child will have access to TTRS. This programme allows children to learn and develop their times table skills and can be accessed at home. If you would like a reminder of their log in please ask.

Your child will receive a new homework grid this term, linked to our new topic. Please choose one task to complete each week. Homework will be sent out on a Friday and needs to be returned the following Wednesday.

P.E.

This term, PE lessons will take place on Tuesdays and Wednesday . Please ensure that your child has a full PE kit (t shirt, shorts and plimsolls) in school on these days so that they can fully participate in the lessons. No earrings are allowed to be worn during P.E. lessons, therefore they need to be able to take them out themselves, or have them taken out in the morning before school.

If you need to contact me at any point, please email me at c.ellis@teynham.kent.sch.uk

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,
Miss C Ellis
Year 4 Class Teacher