

YEAR FOUR'S HALF-TERMLY NEWSLETTER – Spring 1

Welcome back and happy new year to you all. I hope you have all enjoyed a lovely Christmas, avoiding as many of the germs that seem to be circulating at the moment! I have updated the school website with key information about what we will be learning this half term, these subject knowledge organisers can be found under the 'our curriculum' page.

Home Learning

In Year Four, we continue to prioritise reading. We ask that pupils read at least five times a week at home. We understand that it is not always possible for pupils to read with an adult every time so we also encourage independent reading. Please can an adult sign their child's reading journal when they have read. Every time your child reads 5 times in a week, they are added to our chart. If they read 5x a week they are ticked off on our chart and awarded a Star Point.

We are continuing to encourage the children to access Times Table Rockstars regularly at home in preparation for our multiplication check at the end of the year. Another great website, which is setup in the style of the online check, can be found if you Google 'Maths Frame Multiplication Check'.

Spellings for this half term will be sent home and a copy can be found on the school website under the 'Parents/carers - class newsletters' page. We will begin our spelling tests from the week commencing 8th January.

Our home learning menu has been attached and this half term links to our Science topic, 'Ecology'. We encourage pupils to complete at least one activity from the menu per half term to further their learning at home. We will dedicate time at the end of the half term to share and celebrate any work completed from the menus.

Uniform

Please ensure that all items of your child's clothing are named to avoid any losses, especially jumpers and cardigans which often end up in areas away from the classroom. At St Thomas' we always aim to get the children out in the fresh air at break times and request that a coat is brought in everyday, as we all know how unpredictable our weather can be.

Seesaw

If you have had any problems logging in, please let me know and we can resend the details home. Seesaw may be used to send announcements, show a snippet of our day or to showcase excellent work.

PE

This half term we will continue to have our PE day on Tuesdays. Children can come into school in full winter PE kit as per the letter sent out in Autumn 2.

Attendance

Although Spring Term 1 is a short term, we will still be fitting in lots of fun and engaging learning opportunities. It is incredibly important that children are in school and that we strive for 100% attendance. Illness cannot be helped and we completely understand that there are things that come up but it would be great for everyone to aim for 100% attendance

this term.



Jesus said, 'Come follow me, live your lives the way God wants you to.'



Please let me know if you have any worries, concerns or just something you would like to discuss and thank you all for your continued support.

Miss Hayde



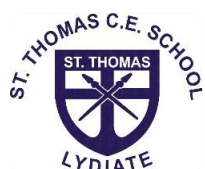
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Year Four Curriculum Map

In the Spring 1 term, we will be learning about:

Maths In Maths we will be continuing our work on multiplication and division. We will be multiplying and dividing up to 3 digit numbers. We will also be practising multiplying with multiples of 10 and 100. We will also be using our multiplication and division skills to solve multi step word problems. We will also continue with lots of discrete times table practise, ahead of the Y4 Time Tables test next summer.	English In English we will be reading and exploring 'Arthur and the Golden Rope' - Joe Todd Stanton. We will explore the book through a range of different writing genres, including information texts, poetry and narrative writing. The children will continue to work on different writing features such as multi-clause sentences and fronted adverbials. Our whole class guided reading sessions will focus on a range of poetry, fiction and non-fiction texts.	RE In RE, we will be focussing on 'Jesus the Son of God.' We will be emphasising that Jesus is the Son of God and we will be thinking about how Jesus showed his power and authority. Some key questions we will consider include: • How do we know Jesus had power and authority? • Where did Jesus' power and authority come from? • How do the actions of Jesus show that he is the Son of God?
History In History, our new topic will be: 'The English Civil War.' We will be learning about: • Charles I's disastrous reign. • The Roundheads and the Cavaliers. • Oliver Cromwell and the Commonwealth.	Geography In Geography, we will be looking at Western Europe. We will learn about: • Key Places in Western Europe • The climate of Western Europe • Different mountain ranges • Compare and contrast physical features of Western Europe and the UK	Science In Science, our topic for this half term is Ecology. We will be learning about: • Living things and their habitat. • Food chains • Ecosystems • Air Pollution and human threat to the environment • Human impact on our local environments
PE We will continue our PE day on Tuesdays. We will be in the hall for PE, working on our gymnastics unit.	MFL Our MFL topic for this half term will be looking at clothing.	PHSE In PHSE, we will be looking at our 'Heart Smart' scheme. We will continue to cover lessons on 'Too much Selfie isn't healthy', before moving onto the unit 'Don't rub it in, rub it out.'
Music The children will have Djembe drumming lessons with a specialist teacher again this half term. These music lessons take place for one hour every Monday afternoon.		



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Year Four Home Learning Menu



History through Art!

Be inspired by how the Historical figures we have been learning about have left their mark on History. Create a work of Art depicting an important historical event e.g. the coronation of Charles I, the war between the Roundheads and Cavaliers.



The English Civil War – Time to Teach

Can you teach others about History?

What sort of King was Charles I?

What did he believe in?

What caused the first English Civil War?

What happened to Charles I after the war?

Create a video explaining what happened and why.

Timeline

Create a timeline of events leading to Charles I reign, the events that caused the first English Civil war and also the execution of Charles I.



Investigate

Investigate one of the colourful characters we have been learning about this term in History e.g. Charles I, Oliver Cromwell.

Write a biography telling us more information about their lives.



Have it your own way!

Or you can do it your way! Explore our History topic in any way you choose with your own project.