

YEAR FOUR'S HALF-TERMLY NEWSLETTER – Summer 1

Welcome to Year 4's Summer term 1 Newsletter. Firstly, my apologies for the lateness of the letter. As many of you know I was poorly during the Easter Holidays and unfortunately was not fit to return until very recently. Thank you for all the lovely messages I received from the children whilst I was in hospital and the parents when I returned to school. I owe a big thank you to Mrs Murphy and Mrs Shaw for filling in for me so seamlessly.

On to school matters and we have updated the school website with key information for this half term. You will find this information under 'Children' and then 'Class Pages'.

Home Learning

A reminder that we continue to ask that pupils read at least five times a week at home. Independent reading should be encouraged for Year 4 children but it is also important for them to continue to read with adults where possible. Please can an adult sign their child's reading journal when they have read. The fortnightly reading raffle is incentive for children to read frequently.

Spellings for this half term have been sent home and a copy can be found online.

Children are also encouraged to use Times Table Rockstars regularly at home. This is a fun but effective way for children to quickly improve their times tables fluency. Please try and make sure children access this as regularly as possible.

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

Seesaw may be used to send announcements, in the event of a child self-isolating, or to showcase excellent work. Please let us know if you have any problems logging in.

PE

The children are enjoying Rounders this term which involves mastering a range of throwing, catching, striking and fielding techniques.

London Trip

As you are aware, most of the Year 4 class are visiting London on 25th May as part of our Five Be experiences. A full itinerary will be sent out this week and a meeting with parents will take place after school on Thursday 19th May in case you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of the trip.

As always if you have any worries or concerns or if there is anything you want to discuss please contact me via Seesaw, or by calling the school office and I will be happy to speak to you either by phone or in person at the school.

Mr Culshaw



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



Year Four Curriculum Map

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

Maths In Maths we will be working through our unit on decimals. This includes writing tenths and hundredths, rounding decimals and dividing whole numbers by 10 and 100. Following this unit we will be starting a new unit on money. We will also continue with lots of times table practise, ahead of the Y4 Time Tables test in June.	English In English we will be concluding E.B. White's classic 'Charlotte's Web' before tackling 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' by Onjali Q Rauf which offers a child's perspective on the refugee crisis. Our whole class guided reading sessions will focus on a range of poetry, fiction and non-fiction texts.	RE Following on from our Easter topic, In RE, we will be 'Comparing churches in our topic 'Are all Churches the same'.
History In History, our dramatic new topic will be: 'Charles II – Plague and Fire.' We will be learning about: • The Restoration of Charles II. • The Scientific Revolution / Isaac Newton. • The Great Plague. • The Great Fire of London. • The rebuilding of London and Christopher Wren.	Geography In Geography this half term we are learning all about London and the South East of England. Including: • The River Thames and the Thames Barrier. • Canterbury. • The White Cliffs of Dover / Coastal Erosion.	Science In Science this half term we will be learning all about States of Matter and the Water cycle. Focusing on: • Solids, Liquids and Gases. • Evaporation. • Condensation. • Precipitation. • The Water Cycle.
PE In PE this half term we are learning and practicing all the skills used in Rounders. We will of course be taking these skills and using them in a real, live game too.	DT In DT this half term we have been creating our own working Torches.	PHSE In PHSE, we will be looking at our latest 'Heart Smart' topic 'No Way Through isn't true'. We will explore resilience reflecting on what we all need to do to keep going.
Music This is our final half term of Djembe drumming lessons with a specialist teacher. These music lessons take place for one hour every Thursday morning. 19th May will be our big performance.		