

Dear Parent,

Class 4 Spring Term 2010

Welcome back to Class 4 and the start of the Spring term. This is quite a short, but very full term and after our slightly delayed start, we have lots to get through!

Literacy

In literacy we will study a mix of fiction and non-fiction. In the first half term the children will be learning about journalism and how to write in a journalistic style. This will culminate in recording and presenting their own radio news program for the younger children in the school. We will also be studying 'Stig of the Dump', focussing on descriptive text and characterisation. Following last terms assessments, different groups of children will be focussing on a range of techniques including use of connectives, different sentence types and increasing their range of punctuation. In the second half of term we will be looking at persuasive writing and how to debate and construct written arguments. This will be followed by shorter units designed to help children revise in preparation for their SAT's, which will be upon us before we know it, and will consist of poetry revision, where the children will be analysing poetry and its meanings, fiction, which will consist of revising narrative writing through different stories and non-fiction revision, revisiting the different major non-fiction text types such as report, recount, information and instruction.

Maths

We will continue to follow the new curriculum blocks of learning; counting, partitioning and calculation; securing number facts and understanding shape; handling data and measures; calculating, measuring and understanding shape as well as securing number facts, relationships and calculating, all of which encompass all four number operations. Again, as a result of assessment from last term, we will be paying particular attention to weaker areas such as use of a calculator, written methods of division, measurement (area and perimeter) and mental calculations.

Science

Our first topic is sound and we will be looking at how sound is made, how it travel and how we receive it. After half term we will be focussing on reversible and irreversible changes. Through both topics we will be improving our skills of scientific enquiry: designing experiments, making sure they are fair, making observations and drawing conclusions from our observations.

Geography

This term we will be looking at a mountain environment in Wales, in particular, studying the life and work of a Welsh Sheep farm. We will be making comparisons between this environment and our own.

P.E.

For this half term will be based inside, largely due to the inclement weather at this time of year. Children will be covering elements of dance and racquet games such as badminton, later moving to outdoor P.E. covering invasion games.

Art

This term we are fortunate enough to have a professional book binder working with us to create our own special books! We will be exploring paper dying, folding, tearing, weaving, using pop-ups

and a whole host of other techniques. I have asked the children to think about a special interest, an important day or person in their life that they would like the book to be about. They need to start collecting bits and pieces to put in their books at a later stage this term.

I have already mentioned the forthcoming SATs test; please be assured that this will not be our main focus but we will do our best to ensure that the children are fully prepared so that they show what they are fully capable of during the tests. If you have any questions about SATs, or any other aspects of this term, please don't hesitate to ask.

Best Wishes

Mrs Sarah Cooke