



Year 4 NEWSLETTER

Summer Term 2020-21

Welcome to the Summer Term in Year 4



What is more important; forests or farms?

This term, we look forward to continuing our learning about the world - and how humans are affecting the environment. We will start by looking at one of the world's most famous biomes - the Amazon Rainforest in South America. We will become geography experts, as we develop our skills using maps, atlases and compasses. We will identify geographical human and physical features, and begin to understand the different ways in which land is used. We will be learning about and debating deforestation, the inspiration for our Cornelius question (above).

How much is too much?

Cornelius is wondering 'how much is too much?' Year 4 will be learning about the human body's digestive system as we start to understand *what goes in... must come out!* Starting in our mouths, we will learn about our teeth and their functions. Then, we will delving into the depths of our bodies and recreating how food turns into poo! Next, we will continue to be scientists and explore the animal kingdom, learning about different food chains.

During this term we will be working on the following learning objectives in English and Maths:

In reading we will be learning to:

- Identify main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and summarising these
- identify how language, structure, and presentation contribute to the meaning

In writing we will be learning to:

- compose and rehearse sentences orally (including dialogue), progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary
- use inverted commas accurately and other punctuation to punctuate direct speech and using and punctuating direct speech

In maths we will be learning to:

- solve addition and subtraction two-step problems in contexts, deciding which operations and methods to use and why
- multiply two-digit and three-digit numbers by a one-digit number using a formal written layout
- recognise and write decimal equivalents of any number of tenths or hundredths

Helping Your Child at Home

Reading

When your child is reading to you, ask them to summarise the paragraph they have read. Commenting on the most important points using the evidence from the text. Next, you could ask them about why they think the author has chosen to use certain words in the text as well as why the author has chosen specific layout features.

To continue to help your child develop their reading skills, you could support them by asking them to 'read between the lines' and look for clues in the text. Inference is a vital skill in our CRAW sessions, and helps to deepen the children's understanding of the texts they read. You could encourage your child to make comments and form opinions on what they are reading, as well as making links between themes.

Writing and Spelling

Our focus this term is to spell the majority of the Year 3/4 Common Exception Words correctly (please see attached list). We will do this through our spelling folders and quizzes in school. Please support us by encouraging your child to learn the spelling strategies for the target spellings in their individual 'Spelling Passports'.

You could also support your child at home with their handwriting by encouraging them to form their ascenders and descenders correctly, and at a clear legible size - not too big, not too small, just right! 😊

Mathematics

For every learner, the priority is to practise ALL their times tables facts, so that they feel confident when applying these facts when problem solving in lessons. Even if your child has learnt all their times tables, keeping their knowledge fresh and practising division facts is important! It would also help if they could practise reading an analogue clock, and converting between a 12 and 24 hour clock.

Dates of Special Events in Year 4

Friday 30th April –
ZooLab visit to Year 4

Year 4 Message Board

Our outdoor PE day is Tuesday; our indoor PE day is Thursday. Please ensure that your child has the correct PE kit in school, including a tracksuit for outside and suitable footwear. Long hair must be tied up and earrings removed or taped for all PE sessions. Please return library books on a Wednesday, so that they can be quarantined in time for use on Friday.

Our classrooms continue to be well ventilated, so please ensure your child has the appropriate number of layers of clothing so that they can stay comfortable. Thank you for your support with water bottles, this has really helped keep everyone safe.

Many thanks for your continued support, Year 4 Team

Word list – years 3 and 4

accident(ally)	early	knowledge	purpose
actual(ly)	earth	learn	quarter
address	eight/eighth	length	question
answer	enough	library	recent
appear	exercise	material	regular
arrive	experience	medicine	reign
believe	experiment	mention	remember
bicycle	extreme	minute	sentence
breath	famous	natural	separate
breathe	favourite	naughty	special
build	February	notice	straight
busy/business	forward(s)	occasion(ally)	strange
calendar	fruit	often	strength
caught	grammar	opposite	suppose
centre	group	ordinary	surprise
century	guard	particular	therefore
certain	guide	peculiar	though/although
circle	heard	perhaps	thought
complete	heart	popular	through
consider	height	position	various
continue	history	possess(ion)	weight
decide	imagine	possible	woman/women
describe	increase	potatoes	
different	important	pressure	
difficult	interest	probably	
disappear	island	promise	