

Year 4 Spring 1 newsletter



Happy new year and welcome back to school. I hope you have all had a lovely Christmas and new year and have managed to stay safe and well.

It's great to be back and I am ready and excited to begin another super half term at school.

As always, please do speak to me if you have any questions, queries or concerns. Popping me a message on Dojo is the easiest way to do this or you can catch me at the end of the day.



SNACK.

Children are permitted to bring a healthy snack to eat at morning break. This could be a piece of fruit, vegetable sticks, cheese, yoghurt tube or healthy snack bar. Snacks really support your child with their concentration and keep their tummies full as our morning can be quite long. Your child also needs a water bottle in school. This should be filled **(with water, not juice)** at home then taken home each night, washed and re-filled for the following morning.



OUTDOOR LEARNING

Our outdoor learning session is on Monday. Unless the weather is dangerous, we will go out! Your child **must** have a change of footwear for this lesson. They may also bring over trousers or a 'throw over' type 'cag-in-a-bag' if it's particularly wet. Hats, scarves and gloves may become necessary as the weather changes too.



PE Tuesday and Thursday are our PE days. Your child should wear their PE kit to come to school. This half term, we're studying gymnastics inside on Tuesday and Netball outside (weather permitting) on Thursday. PE kit is either plain black shorts or skorts and a plain white T-shirt, a plain black tracksuit or black leggings and a plain sweatshirt or black school hoodie. Trainers may be also be worn on PE day. Please adhere carefully to this uniform. Your child should not be wearing any other colours and all clothes should be plain unless they have the school logo on them. No other logos are permitted. Thank you.



CURRICULUM

This half term, your child will continue to be taught a broad curriculum. They will study Maths and English daily and will also be taught Science, History, Geography, Spanish, Music, RE, Art, DT and PSHE throughout the week and half term. Our Maths themes this half term are 'Multiplication and Division' followed by 'Area' followed by the start of our unit on fractions. In English, we will start a new 6 week unit based around a new text which links to our overall theme. As always, I can't tell you what it is yet because it will spoil the prediction work we will begin next week. The children will study 'living things' in their Science lessons. Our main theme heading for this half term is 'Norman Invasion' All our non-core subjects will link with this theme as the children study Motte and Bailey Castles, The Bayeux Tapestry, Anglo-Saxon village life, the feudal system, the domesday book etc over the coming weeks. We will also do some drama during this half term and the children will learn some performance poetry to share with you at home.

HOMEWORK

There is nothing new happening this half term regarding homework. As reminders, your child needs to be completing at least one piece of homework each week. This can be from the sheet attached here or another idea of their own. Homework must be submitted via Dojo each week. Homework has really tailed off recently and I am receiving very little from some children. Please encourage your child to be completing their weekly homework. In addition to this, they need to be reading regularly. Please continue to use the green home reading record to write each time you listen to your child and what you have done. Please also record any other activities your child does around the book. The video for other ideas is still on Dojo so please feel free to have another view of this if you're unsure of what else to do with your child's reading book at home. Reading books should last at least a week before they will be changed. Times tables work is the final thing for your child to do at home. TTRock stars is one of the best tools to support with practise of these number facts and will help increase their speed.



DOJO

ClassDojo I will continue to use Dojo as my primary route of communication. Please check regularly to ensure you are fully up to date with and news, events, reminders or information. Again, you may contact me using the private message function on Dojo too.

Ingleborough Hall. I am now as optimistic as I dare be that we will get to Ingleborough Hall this year. I know you will have questions but please bear with me; I promise I'll answer them and you will be fully informed before our visit.

We are taking Year 5 to Ingleborough in Feb as they missed their visit last year so our emphasis is on this visit for now. Once they are back, we will turn our attention to the Year 4 trip and will ensure you have all the information you require. I will run a meeting to share how the visit will run and the activities we'll do, you'll get a kit list, medical forms will be collected so we know how and when to administer any medication etc.

It's always a fantastic visit and I can't wait to take your child!

Homework ideas

- Visit a castle with your family. Take photographs and write about what you learnt.
- Design your own armour.
- Design your own castle. How will you keep it safe?
- Find out about the Battle of Stamford Bridge. What happened?
- Create your own Domesday book. (You might find this easier to do after we've done our History lesson on the Domesday book)
- Find out about a Norman Games tournament.
- Can you learn some French words? You could try colours, numbers or how to introduce yourself.
- Find out about shields used in the Norman times. Design and make your own shield. Will you use a round or kite shape? Which colours and patterns will you use?

Remember; homework is compulsory and must be completed weekly. Once you have done your homework, upload it to Dojo. Your teacher will then look at it and comment on it.