



I hope you all had a happy and safe Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all again for a new term.

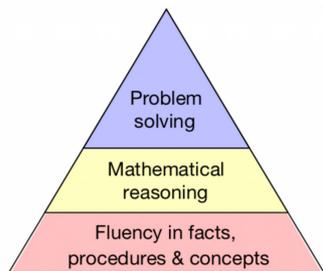
This newsletter outlines the changes in Class 4 for the Spring term. We are not yet returning to a full curriculum however we have added to our afternoon sessions and we will be joined by Mrs Richardson on a Friday afternoon who will be teaching some of these extra subjects.

Mr Tanner will continue to be with us this term on a Thursday and he will be doing handball. Mrs Richardson will be taking the second session of PE on a Friday afternoon which will be dance. The class will learn how to choreograph their own piece looking at floor work, rhythm and musicality and working with partners and in groups. They will then perform their piece in the final session.

Handball may be inside or outside (depending on the weather) so please make sure your child is prepared for both i.e. shorts under jogging bottoms, warm jumpers and a waterproof jacket.

Our Wild Woodland Learning sessions will take place after the February half term - we will send a reminder!

On the days we don't have PE, we have a 15 minute session of Daily Physical Exercise (DPA) which may involve a quick jog round the playground, team games or brains breaks to break up the indoor sessions.



Our Numeracy Ninja maths fluency sessions proved very popular and competitive during the autumn term but for Spring, we will be focussing on reasoning and problem solving skills during our afternoon numeracy sessions.

Reasoning is the process of applying logical thinking to a situation to derive the correct problem solving strategy for a given question, and using this method to develop and describe a solution. Put more simply, mathematical reasoning is the bridge between fluency and problem solving - it allows pupils to use the former to accurately carry out the latter.



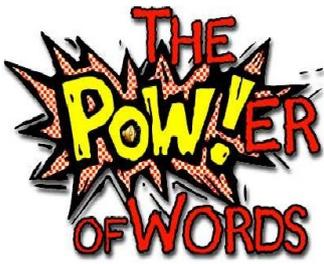
Homework will continue to be set on a Wednesday and due in by Monday morning. Each week there will be three tasks to complete on Spelling Shed and children should also complete a minimum of three games on Times Tables Rock Stars.

We repeated our baseline spelling test before we broke up for Christmas and all children had made progress with their spellings which was great to see. Although the Spelling Shed tasks are short, they really do make a difference and I would love to see everyone make even more progress this term. The challenge in class, is to get them to apply their learning to their writing - being able to spot their mistakes and correct them during the editing process - the more practice they have with their spellings, the easier this becomes.

Although we have completed our multiplication and division unit in maths, we will be starting the term with fractions and this topic requires children to be fluent with their tables. The more fluent they are, the more confident they will be and they will also be able to process the new learning much more efficiently if they are not having to spend additional time recalling their tables.

Any other homework tasks that are set relating to other subjects will be assigned and need to be handed in via Teams.

I will continue to offer the lunchtime session on Monday for those children who were unable to complete their homework or require additional support.



Reading will continue to have a high profile in Class 4 and will be supported through individual reading using our Accelerated Reader (AR) scheme, small group and 1:1 guided reading sessions where the support offered can be more personalised and whole class guided reading sessions which exposes children to a wide range of texts, genres and inspiration.

We encourage the children to take their AR books home and read for at least 20 minutes a day but it is important that they bring it back to school every day for our AR sessions.

Books that need to be returned to the library will continue to be quarantined in the classroom for 72 hours before being returned to the library.

Our class one million word challenge currently stands at seven days. Pretty tough to beat I think!



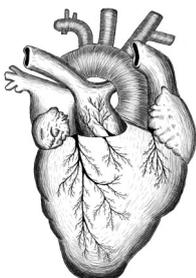
I am pleased to say that Spanish is one of the subjects that will be on our new Spring timetable - it proved very popular when we trialled it with Classes 3 and 4 in the last academic year and I'm looking forward to building on our existing learning,

Although we managed to squeeze in some art last term, it will now make a regular appearance on the timetable with Mrs Richardson on a Friday afternoon - the first theme links with our science topic on the heart.

Art will be on a half termly rotation with design technology and our first focus for this is seasonal food.

Our English for the first half term has a climate theme. We will be writing persuasive speeches based on those by Greta Thunberg and we will also be writing non-chronological reports on animals affected by climate change.

FaB also has a science link this term with the question 'Creation and Science - Conflicting or Complementary?'



I hope that this newsletter answers all your questions about Class 4 for the Spring term. If you, or they, have a question that has not been answered, please drop me an email or catch me at the end of the day during pick up.

Miss Barlow, Mrs Richardson
Mrs Redmayne & Mrs Monroe