






YEAR 4 NEWSLETTER: AUTUMN TERM 1 2023

A very warm welcome to Year 4! The children have settled well this week and made a great start to the year.

If there is anything that you need to inform us about or questions that you have, do contact us via email: schooloffice@carolinehaslett.milton-keynes.sch.uk

Here is a taste of what we have planned for this half term.

<p>English</p> 	<p>We will be using our Roman topic as a stimulus for our writing. This will include retelling the legend of Romulus and Remus and writing non-chronological reports. The children will be consolidating and refining their reading, spelling, grammar and punctuation skills including summarising key events from their reading, using paragraphs accurately and continuing to expand vocabulary knowledge through the use of dictionaries and thesauruses.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>This half term, the focus will be on developing a deep and secure understanding of place value, addition and subtraction. We shall now be working with numbers up to 10 000. We will partition in different ways, round numbers to a specified digit and introduce negative numbers linked to real life examples such as temperature.</p> <p>We will have a big focus on times tables throughout Y4 in anticipation of the government times table check in the summer term. The expectation is that the children will be able to rapidly recall any times table fact, up to 12×12, by the end of the year. Our target for this half term will be the 6 times table facts which children will be tested on weekly, every Monday. The government expectation is that children will recall each fact within 6 seconds.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>The children will be identifying how sounds are made and how they travel to our ears. They will find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it. They will investigate the relationship between volume and the strength of the vibrations that produced it.</p> <p>Vocabulary: amplitude, decibel, electricity, energy, frequency, medium, pitch, power, sound waves, source, transmit, travel, vibrations, volume.</p>
<p>Computing</p> 	<p>Mrs Hart, our resident expert, will be teaching Computing. As well as learning how to stay safe online, the children will be studying the unit 'We are Software Developers.' They will be developing a simple educational game on Scratch incorporating loops and conditionals.</p> <p>Vocabulary: repetition, scripts, coordinates, clone, algorithm, debug,</p>
<p>RE</p>	<p>With a focus on Hinduism, the children will learn why Murtis are a focus for prayer whilst exploring the question 'Do Murtis help Hindus understand God?' If you are a Hindu and would like to show what you do at home as a family, please email the office FAO Ms Thompson or Mrs Dye.</p> <p>Vocabulary: Aum, avatars, Brahma, Brahman, consort, deities, Hinduism, mandir, murtis, Shiva, trimurti, Vishnu.</p>

PSHE/ SEAL/ Citizenship	<p>The children will be learning about how laws are made, seeking ways to save energy, and developing their awareness of climate change as well as voting for their school council representatives for the year in a democratic vote.</p> <p>Vocabulary: charter, co-operate, laws, democracy, parliament, energy, waste, insulations, carbon dioxide, emissions, environment, global warming, climate, natural disaster, drought, developing.</p>
History	<p>The children will be learning about the Roman Empire and its impact on Britain. We will be exploring what life was like in the Roman army, key figures such as Boudicca, Caesar and Claudius, as well as the ongoing legacy in Britain today. We will further develop a sense of chronology and explore different sources of evidence.</p> <p>Vocabulary: archaeologist, Empire, Emperor, infrastructure, Jutes, legacy, pictis, province, Boudicca, rebellion, Roman, Scots, settler, settlement</p>
Music	<p>This half term, we will be learning about musical structures. These are musical sections that repeat or change to help create the structure, or form, of a piece of music or a song. We will look for patterns in the sections of music and songs within this unit.</p> <p>Vocabulary: verses, chorus, pattern, tempo, time signature, key signature, minim, crotchet, dotted crotchet, quaver.</p>
French	<p>The children will practise their conversation skills whilst consolidating vocabulary taught in Year 3. They will learn the vocabulary for different forms of transport and explore which countries in the world have French as an official language.</p> <p>Vocabulary: <i>en vélo</i> -by bike, <i>en voiture</i> - by car, <i>à pied</i> -on foot, <i>en bus</i> - by bus, <i>en bateau</i> - by boat, <i>en train</i> - by train, <i>en avion</i> - by plane, <i>en taxi</i> - by taxi, <i>en moto</i> - on a motorcycle</p>
Art and DT 	<p>This term's topic is called 'Bodies'. We will be looking at the work of artists such as Henry Moore and Sir Antony Gormley before creating our own drawings and sculptures of bodies in various media and materials.</p> <p>Vocabulary: group installation, maquette, mold, casting</p>

How you can help at home:

- Visit the library if you can and read books to support our learning eg. Roman Britain, sound and the famous people mentioned within the subjects. Read as widely as possible - fiction, non-fiction, poetry, a mix of modern texts and older texts etc.
- Please discuss your child's reading with them. Talk about the meaning of vocabulary, the author's word choices - are they effective? Could they be improved? (eg. instead of walked, you could have sauntered or marched). Look at how characters' thoughts and feelings influence their actions.
- Children are expected to **read every day at home**. Everytime they read **part** of their book (eg. a chapter or part of a chapter) this will count as one read towards the RED challenge. We ask them not to rush through a book as the key focus at this stage is that they are **understanding** what they have read and are **learning the meaning** of new words and phrases. A guide for parents will be added to Google Classroom for your reference regarding the sorts of questions the children are expected to be able to answer when reading in Y4.

Initially, children have been issued with a book at the level they were reading at in Y3. We will be assessing the children's reading levels over the next few weeks and the book band may go up or down to match their current needs.

- Support your child to learn their spellings every week. **We will publish spellings on Google Classroom on a Friday and test on the following Friday.** Practise for a short time every day for the most effective results.
- Support your child with learning their times tables - they should already know x2, x5, x10, x3, x4 and x8 and we will be focusing on x6 this half term. Progress towards maths targets will be checked with a timed test every **Monday**. Again please practise daily. As well as learning the current times table, it is important to mix in previous times tables to keep them fresh and improve fluency. Visit <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/maths/timestable/interactive.htm> to practise times tables as well as continuing to use TTRockstars.

PE/Games

Currently, we are asking children to come to school wearing their PE kit on the relevant days. They will wear their PE kit for the whole of that day. **Murrey has PE on Monday and Fridays, Joules has PE on Monday and Friday**

Areas to note:

- Please send your child in with a clear, plastic bottle of water, labelled with their name, to keep in class. Please also put your child's snack in a named plastic bag or box.
- Homework will be set on a Friday to be handed in by the following Thursday morning. Please check Google Classroom for tasks.

Passwords have been stuck into children's reading records. If you have a problem accessing Google Classroom, TTRockstars or maths.co.uk, please alert us via the school office.

We look forward to an excellent year working in partnership with you.

Murrey Class: Ms F Thompson (Assistant Headteacher) and Mrs L De Araujo (TA)

Joules Class: Mrs E Dye (Class Teacher) and Mrs J Helm (TA)