

Important Dates

- Wednesday 5th January - First day back of school
Wednesday 12th January - Choir to the O2 for Young Voices
Monday 17th January - Martin Luther King Day
Thursday 27th January - International Holocaust Remembrance Day
WC 31st January - National Storytelling week
Tuesday 1st February - Chinese New Year
Tuesday 8th February - Safer Internet Day
Thursday 10th February - Parents Evening (school finishes at 1:15pm)
Friday 11th February - End of Term



Year Four Mexico and Nicaragua Spring 1 Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you, and your children, have had a happy and healthy winter holiday. It is an absolute pleasure to welcome your children back into class.

This term, we have lots of interesting and engaging learning lined up in Year 4 and you can read more about what is in store for your children on the back of this letter.

If you wish to talk to us about your child you should ring the office to let them know and we will then call you back.

A Reminder About Homework

Homework is so important for your child to complete. Please support them to make sure they do it.

Homework is handed out on **Friday** and should be returned the following **Wednesday**. Homework consists of English and Maths tasks that will consolidate the work they have learned that week and a literacy task. A regular part of homework is weekly **spellings**. Please do practise them with your child at home.

All homework will now be on Google Classrooms. Children will have lessons in class on how to upload work. If you do not have access to a computer device or internet, we will continue to give homework in books for your child.

Also, please practise the **times tables** with your child. Our focus this half term are the 7X, 9X, 11X and 12X tables. Please encourage your child to use the Timestable Rockstars app to support their timetables learning.

It is essential that your child **reads every day**. Reading is a fantastic



Children's education should help them fully develop their personalities, talents and abilities. It should teach them to understand their own rights, and to respect other people's rights, cultures and differences. It should help them to live peacefully and protect the environment.

Writing

Our writing this term is all linked with our History topic. We start by basing our work on character descriptions on Beowulf. We will then move on to exploring first person narrative based on the book 'The Girl Who Speaks Bear' by Sophie Anderson. Finally, we will explore writing instructions, based on the book 'Horrible Histories: Smashing Saxons'. Continuing to focus on spellings and grammar within our writing work is also key.

Mathematics

As mathematicians, we will be revisiting place value to start with, moving on to fractions and linking them with decimals. We will consolidate our mental strategies for addition and subtraction and then move on to consolidating our methods for formal column addition and formal column subtraction. *Year 4 need to know all the times tables by the end of the year so help from home would be much appreciated. This term we are focusing on the 6X, 7X and 9X tables.*

History

As Historians, we will be exploring who the Anglo Saxons were and where they came from. We will explore what we can learn about them from artefacts. We will also learn about the kings and queens of those times. Finally, we will discover what Sutton Hoo is and what we have learnt from it.

Science

As scientists, we are looking at the different states of matter - solid, liquid and gas. We will explore what happens to the molecules in matter in these different states. We will work scientifically by carrying out practical enquiries, classifying different materials, performing simple tests and making careful observations.

Writing and Reading

Mathematics
Fractions
Decimals
Addition
Subtraction

History
Angl-Saxons

Science
States of Matter

Reading

We will continue with Destination Reader, a reading programme to develop our reading skills of *inference, prediction, clarifying, summarising, evaluating, asking questions and making connections* through our daily reading lessons.

Computing
On-line Safety & Digital Citizenship

PSHCE
Goals and Dreams

PSHCE

Our topic is called 'Goals and Dreams'. We will be exploring different issues around this including jobs and careers, being responsible, saving money and caring for our environment.

Art
Collage

RE
Sikhism

Computing

We will be revisiting how to be safe online and how we grow up responsibly in this digital world, including looking at 'digital footprints' and copyright.

Music
Ukulele

Physical Development
Basketball
Gymnastics

RE

We will be learning about Sikhism and particularly about what marriage means in this religion.

Art

We will be exploring the work of Henri Matisse's collage work and then discovering different techniques to create collages of our own.

Music

We will be continuing our musical learning in the context of learning how to play the ukulele.

Physical Development

Children must bring their **complete PE kit** each day they do PE.
Nicaragua: Monday (basketball) and Wednesday (gymnastics)
Mexico: Monday (basketball) and Tuesday (gymnastics)

