

Year 4 Newsletter

Welcome to the third Year 4 newsletter! We can't believe the children are half way through their year already. This half term has flown by – looking back it is difficult to see how we managed to pack everything in!

We have worked hard in English, writing a story based on the film 'Feast' and a diary of a Roman slave spectating a gladiator battle. The enthusiasm and creativity of all the children has been impressive. In maths we have worked on securing strategies for multiplication and division and have continued to stress the importance of knowing and applying times tables.

A highlight of this half term has been our Roman and Anglo-Saxon day. The children participated in a day off timetable exploring artefacts, dressing up and performing drama. It was a day filled with engaging learning and lots of participation!

All of the Year 4 team would like to wish you a restful and relaxing half term break.

Mrs Cumberbeach & the Year 4 team

Homework

Homework is set on Monday and needs to be completed by the next Monday.

Spellings:

Weekly spellings will be set and written into the children's HSO. Children will be tested on the spellings the following Monday.

Reading:

Read 5 times a week and record this in your Home School Organiser with a comment about the reading. There is also a reading question that children need to answer in their HSO.

SPaG:

Log on to SPAG.com and complete the task set. The task will be linked to the learning happening in class.

Maths:

Log on to Times Table Rock Stars and practice for 10 minutes.

Children should also complete a 10 minute 'workout' per week in their maths CGP workbook.

All the passwords the children will need for the online sites are stuck in their HSO.

Assessments

In the next half term, we will be taking part in assessments for reading, SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) and maths using NTS formal assessments. Teachers will also be assessing writing using the independent writing activities which the children have already completed over the previous half term. As a school we use this information, along with in-class teacher judgements, to map out our future planning, intervention groups and highlight any gaps in knowledge which may need to be taught again.

Teachers and senior leadership (which includes Mr Stevenson, our Assistant Head Teacher with responsibility for inclusion and SEND) meet to discuss all children within our termly 'Pupil Progress Meetings'.

We will let you know how your child has performed through our parents' evening session, and also through our 'Snapshot reports' which will be sent directly to you as parents on 28th March 2024.

Communication.

If you would like to contact your child's class teacher, please e-mail:

Acer – Mrs Gunning (Monday – Wednesday) g.gunning@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Mrs Ghalami (Thursday – Friday) a.ghalami@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Palm – Mrs Cumberbeach r.cumberbeach@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Pine- Miss Lines - j.lines@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Skills

Please can all children wear their P.E. kits on **Mondays** For this half term, skills are as follows:

Acer – PE with Complete Coaching

Palm – PE with Mr Coles

Pine – Swimming with Mrs Tapley and Art with Mrs Dayekh on Mondays and Wednesdays. They may wear PE kits on both days.

WOW Work!

Every year group newsletter will include a piece of writing published from a child in our year group. The extract below is from a story based on Feast written by Finlay in Palm class. It was a very exciting story to read and we especially liked his descriptive vocabulary and varied sentence structure.

Feast

In a dark alleyway, close to an icy midnight, a shaking tabby kitten with white sock paws strolled away to find unwanted food - she was famished but familiar with the sensation. She heard booming footsteps coming. Was it a human BAD or GOOD?! The man seemed caring and loving, he even handed the kitten half of a hot, delectable and regular chip. But why? "Come here if you'd like more," the man suggested kindly.

The man brought the kitten home and gave her a bowl with big red letters on the side saying Elsie she guessed that might be her name. It was filled with crunchy, fish-shaped biscuits that smelled like sardines and mackerel Elsie thought it was heaven as the man seemed caring and loving he let Elsie have some pizza. It disappeared in an instant. After eight meals, Elsie was officially full.

Life felt good for Elsie because no cat on earth was fed so many different delicious things as she had been for the past few weeks, but at a random pace a brussel sprout appeared on her plate. Elsie decided to investigate before she ate it - she wrinkled her nose when she sniffed at it. It smelled like the bins she used to scrounge in. She was about to eat it in one big bite like a jaguar but she was stopped by a waitress. Elsie was put on the floor and a plate of gross brussel sprouts. Elsie tried one she hated. She even threw up and she looked to her left. someone was sitting in her seat, a lady to be exact. Elsie scratched the ladies chair and she gave Elsie a leaf from now on Elsie hated green food.

Year 4 Topics

During next half-term, we will be learning where food comes from in our new topic in geography. Our RE topic will be looking at different covenants in Christianity and we will also be leading the school in the Easter service.

In maths, the children will be learning about decimals, money, length, mass and volume.

We are looking forward to creating sculptures and experimenting with 3D design in our new art topic: Mega Materials.

Please remember to check our knowledge organisers on the website to see what we have learnt this half term and what we will be learning next!

We hope you have a lovely break; we can't wait to welcome the children back!

Diary Dates

February	Finish for half term: Friday 9 th February 2024 Inset Day: Monday 19 th February Children return: Tuesday 20 th February 2024 22nd February: Girl Guiding World Thinking Day Members of the Girl Guiding Association may wear their uniforms to school W/C 26th February: Year 4 Bikeability
March	1st March: Pine Class Assembly 6th March: Opal afternoon and open classrooms 7TH March: World Book Day 7TH & 8th March: Music Workshop with performance to parents on the 8 th March W/C 11th March: British Science Week 14th March: PTA Bingo Night 15th March: Palm Class Assembly 27th March: Year 4 Easter service to school 28th March: Year 4 Easter service to parents 28TH March: Last day of term (early finish). Snapshot reports out and PTA Doughnut sale
April	15th April: Children return to school 16th April: Parents' Evening 17th April: Parents' Evening

