

# Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter – Spring 2



**Strength in Learning.  
Power in Community**

Dear parents and carers,

The year is flying by! We are now in Spring 2 – half way through the school year already. We are excited to start a new term full of exciting learning!

This term we have introduced '**Reader of the Week!**' – to support us with this, please make sure yellow reading diaries are sent in every week on Wednesday (or Thursday) for class teachers to check.



**Writing:** This half term we will be using the core texts, 'The Wild Robot Protects' and 'Pebble in my pocket'. Our first unit focuses on a devastating forest fire on the island where the robot lives. We will explore descriptive language and think carefully about how we can up-level our vocabulary to make meaningful choices. Later in the term, we will be writing in the style of a different type of text, where non-fiction meets fiction – we will follow the story of a water droplet!



**Reading:** This half term in reading we are reading 'The Firework Maker's Daughter'. The story is about a young girl who goes on an adventure to discover the true secrets to becoming a Firework Maker herself. We will continue to develop reading fluency and work on their vyper skills of vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval and summarising. Please can we remind everyone that we need to see reading diaries each week – these need to be brought in on a Wednesday or Thursday. Many thanks for your support with this!



**Maths:** This term in maths, we are moving onto Fractions. We will be exploring the whole, adding and subtracting fractions whilst explore improper fractions and mixed numbers too. Later in the term, we will be moving onto decimals. Initially we will be looking at the link between fractions and decimals, before linking decimals more to multiplication and division.



**Science:** This half term we are going to be exploring the work of Taxonomists – this is where scientists categories and sort living things into groups, e.g. mammals and birds. We will be learning about different ways to sort the information, and exploring how this can be represented in a meaningful way. Later in the unit, we will be looking at how our climate and habitats are affected by humans.



**History/Geography:** This term we are continuing to learn about Rivers, looking at Rivers in the UK in more depth, whilst considering natural and manmade features too. We are excited to be going on a local river trip soon where we will be looking at some river features in real life! Our focus this term



**PSHE:** Our theme for PHSE is 'Living in the Wider World', with a focus on environment. We will explore how people have a shared responsibility to help protect the environment and how our everyday choices can affect the environment.



**Music:** This half-term, the children will continue to use the iPads to make music. They will use their understanding of how to create different rhythms and melodies developed last half-term to compose their own short pieces, carefully considering their choices of synths (electronic instrument sounds) and note pitches, as well as an appropriate tempo (speed of the music) when building their musical composition.



**Computing:** In computing we are going to be will be exploring spreadsheets and learning about some of the clever things that you can do using a spreadsheet! We will continue to visit online safety, looking at how to stay safe online.



**PE:** This half term our outdoor PE is Basketball – we will be refining our passing and receiving skills. A huge part of PE is working collaboratively in a team, and working together in order to 'win'. Our indoor PE this half term is a gymnastics unit. We will be learning a routine, before creating, rehearsing and performing our own routines.



**RE:** This term we will be sharing ideas about what Jesus might have been like and to think critically about different representations of Jesus. We will explain the actions and qualities of Jesus which led some people to believe he was the Messiah. We will explore the meaning of a parable and try to identify some messages in Jesus' parables.



**Art & DT:** In DT this term, we will be making a healthy pasta salad – we will be revisiting food hygiene, where food comes from and refining our food preparation techniques in the kitchen.



**MFL:** In French, we will be learning some different animal names – we will do this through song and games! We will continue to revise the vocabulary that we have learnt in the previous terms.



**Forest school:** During Forest Schools this half term, the children will learn about food chains in a woodland environment and saw wooden disks to turn into a food chain mobile with the sun at the top. They will also be making cookie dough and building a fire to cook it on.

If you have any questions at all please contact us or catch us at the end of the school day.

Please ensure the children come into school ready for PE on their days.

**Beech Class:** Indoor - Wednesday Outdoor - Friday

**Chestnut Class:** Indoor - Thursday Outdoor - Wednesday

**Hazel Class:** Indoor - Friday Outdoor - Wednesday

Daily reading makes a huge difference—please record this in your child's reading record.

**Homework and spellings go home each Thursday.**