

# Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter – Summer 1



Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had a fantastic Easter and are ready to get stuck into the magic of the Summer term! Please keep an eye out for messages and communications on dojo.

Key Dates:                      20<sup>th</sup> April – Harry Potter Trip 1                      4<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday  
   27<sup>th</sup> April – Harry Potter Trip 2                      18<sup>th</sup> May – Egyptian Day



**Strength in Learning.  
Power in Community**



**Writing:** This half term we will be using the core texts, 'Harry Potter' and the Philosopher's Stone and 'Marcy and the Riddle of the Sphinx'. In Harry Potter we are writing a diary entry from Harry's perspective writing about his life at home with the Dursley's using present perfect tense. We will also be writing an alternative ending for Marcy and the Riddle of the Sphinx using expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials.



**Reading:** This half term in reading we are reading 'Grumpfort'. The story is a boy called Monday (Mo for short), who has to defend the village of Bogfoss from monsters. He really doesn't want to be a warden, and after an unfortunate event, he sets off into the forest to prove that he has got what it takes!

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 exploring decimals! This is the first time that the children have looked at decimals so we have started off slowly by looking at the link to fractions. Next term we will be moving into Money, and we will link decimals to this.



**Science:** This half term we will be exploring electricity and circuits. We will be using equipment to build electricity circuits and think about the different components that a circuit can have in it. Later this term we will be exploring conductor and insulators, as well as completing some experiments to see what affects bulb brightness. We will of course have a look at how to stay safe around electrical items.



**History:** This term we are beginning our topic on the Ancient Egyptians. We will begin by placing the Ancient Egyptians on our timeline, and looking at the different stages of the Ancient Egyptians. Later in the term, we will think about what life in Ancient Egypt was like, and how life then compares to life today. We also have an exciting Ancient Egyptian day on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May.



**PSHE:** Our theme for PHSE is all about drugs, which forms part of our health and wellbeing topics. We will explore some different types of drugs and talk about how to stay safe around medicines and common, everyday drugs. We will briefly cover the difference between legal and illegal drugs, but this is just to say that some drugs are illegal. We will not name any of these!



**Music:** This half-term, the children will be using the Djembe drums. They will learn about the importance of posture, hold and positioning in order to make a good quality and accurate sound. The children will learn how to play the Bass and Open tones, and develop their rhythm playing skills, how to follow a conductor, play as a group in time together, and performing their own 4-beat and 8-beat bars.



**Computing:** In computing our topic is logos. The children have been using directions to instruct pictures and direct them around a route.



**PE:** This half term our outdoor PE is Rounders – we will be practising our fielding skills as well as our throwing and catching 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 an OAA, Outdoor, Adventurous Activities. We have been completing a lot of these lessons outside to make the most of the sunshine. We have been using our problem-solving skills to break codes and follow maps.



**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 art this half term we are going to be building sculptures of some of our favourite foods to make a class feast. We will be building using recycled materials and then sculpting using Modroc before painting to add detail.



**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:** This term the children will learn how Egyptians used Shadufs to raise water from the river Nile. The children will work as a team to build a working Shaduf in the woods. We will also be using clay to make a cartouche with their own name in

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

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

<b>Beech Class:</b>	<b>Indoor</b> - Tuesday	<b>Outdoor</b> - Friday
<b>Chestnut Class:</b>	<b>Indoor</b> - Friday	<b>Outdoor</b> - Thursday
<b>Hazel Class:</b>	<b>Indoor</b> - Tuesday	<b>Outdoor</b> - Thursday

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

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