

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the first part of Spring term in Year 4!

Behaviour

As you will already be aware, Oriel's behaviour system across the school is themed 'Aim for the Stars!' Each class has a rocket displayed, onto which are the avatars your child was assigned last year. The avatars move up or down in accordance to the children's behaviour choices. 'Aim for the Stars!' reward time on a Friday afternoon will be the weekly reward for children whose avatars remain high up on the rocket, along with Marvellous Me notifications which the teachers will send home using the Marvellous Me app (see the School Office for details of your login/password if you have not already done so). Children will also earn plastic colour coded tokens for their house if good choices are made.

Curriculum

This half term our cross-curricular topic will be 'Time Cop', which will take us on a journey through time. We will be comparing and contrasting these periods of time to each other as well as to our modern day lives.

Here is a list of our subjects for this half term:

English – We will be reading and writing narratives focused on Ancient Greeks and Ancient Romans (myths and legends).

It is essential that your child reads every day and that this is recorded and signed in their Reading Journal. When children finish their books please write this in the comments so we know they need to choose another book. Children should aim to get their reading journals signed at least five times a week. We are continuing with the same library system 'Accelerated Reader', this year, which enables your child to choose books with a ZPD level specific to their reading ability. We aim for your child to change their reading book at least once per week, but the children are encouraged to read additional books at home, if they finish their library books. Children should record the titles of these additional books, along with their opinions too!

Spelling – In line with the new national curriculum, the children in Year 4 will be covering the spelling lists for years 3-4 in weekly spelling lessons. Lists of words to learn will be sent home on the Monday in class to be learnt throughout the week and the children will be tested on the Friday. It is very important that the children practice these to help them with their writing stages.

Maths - This half term we will continue to focus on 'Statistics', in particular discrete and continuous data. We will then study 'Multiplication' and the patterns found in the different times tables and how different tables link to each other. Next, we will focus on 'Fractions' and then move on to 'Time'. As you may already be aware, the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check is due to be carried out this academic year for the first time in schools across the country. It is an online test with 25 questions. In order to best prepare the children for this test, we will be spending lots of time playing times table games and learning all of our tables, as the expectation by the end of Year 4 is that children know all of their tables up to 12 x 12. Children will be tested on their times tables each Thursday. This will indicate which tables they are more/less secure with and so which they need to work on. Please help us by encouraging your child to continue practising their tables at home- there are many online games available to help with this, Times Tables Rock Stars being a particularly good example.

Science – Living things and their habitats.

History – Ancient Greeks and Ancient Romans

PE – Developing personal skills and physical fitness, with a focus on coordination and agility. Please make sure your child has the correct PE kit in school and make sure your child is not wearing any jewellery such as necklaces. **Our PE days are Tuesdays.**

Wellness (PSHCE) – Helping others to keep safe.

Art – Painting, with a particular focus on using water colour to produce washes to create various moods.

Design and Technology – making Roman style paper for Roman reports.

Homework will be set on a Friday to be handed in on the following Wednesday.

Practicing times tables with your child would be a great help too.

The children will be rewarded for good attendance. **Attendance is crucial for children to continue to make good progress this year. If your child is absent please ensure that you ring the school by 9.30 am to inform of the reason for absence. A note must also be written explaining your child's absence on their return to school.**

All children are expected to come to school in full uniform as this is reflective of their learning and their attitude towards school. If a child has an item of uniform missing then they will receive a warning. If that item continues to be missing then the child will miss their playtime. Consistent failure to attend school without the correct uniform will result in referral to a member of the SLT.

We are always happy to speak to you if you have any concerns, questions or problems. Due to current guidelines, this will now need to take place in an email, or over the phone.

Many thanks for your support,
Mrs Butcher, Mrs Rahi, Miss Lomas and Mrs Millie

