



## Year 4's Newsletter

Summer 1 2024

**The Teachers in Year 4 are Miss Meredith, Mrs McIlroy, Mrs Bramley and Mrs Holt.  
The Teaching Assistant for Wonderful Woodpeckers is Mrs Bamford and the Teaching Assistant for the Deaf for Busy Bees is Mrs Fox.**

### **Our Main Project this term is 'Ancient Civilisations'.**

During our topic this half term, your child will be learning about three of the earliest civilisations in the world; Ancient Sumer, Ancient Egypt and the Indus Valley civilisation. They will learn about the Ancient Sumerian and Ancient Egyptian civilisation in detail to discover how crucial factors like water sources and farming helped them to develop and thrive. They will find out about important inventions and the growth of cities. They will also learn about the lives of different people in society, including the roles of kings and pharaohs. The children will reflect on their learning by identifying the similarities and differences between the two civilisations, before studying the Indus Valley civilisation independently. They will explore sources of evidence about the location of the Indus Valley, cities and trade, and note the reasons why historians know less about the Indus Valley than other Ancient Civilisations. The children will then compare all three civilisations, before learning about the causes and the consequences of each civilisation's decline. They will also consider whether or not these civilisations left a lasting legacy.

In English this half term, we will be writing a non-chronological report all about Ancient Sumer. We will also be writing an adventure narrative based on our learning about the three civilisations. The texts we will be using this half term are 'Daily Life in Ancient Sumer' by Nick Hunter, 'Sumer and Ancient Mesopotamia' - Technology in the Ancient World and 'Secrets of a Sun King' by Emma Carroll.

In Whole Class Reading this half term, we will be focussing on two books; a non-fiction book titled 'Ancient Sumer (Explore!)' by Rachel Minay and a fiction book titled 'Ancient Egypt: Tales of Gods and Pharaohs' by Marcia Williams. We will be continuing to practise our inference and retrieval skills as well as making predictions.

### **How you could help your child prepare for the topic...**

- Use the internet to research what an ancient civilisation is.
- Use information books and the internet to find out about archaeology, archaeologists, archaeological sites and artefacts. Create an information poster to record your findings.
- Use information books or the internet to find out about pharaohs of ancient Egypt. Choose two pharaohs you find interesting, draw a picture of them, record the dates of their reign and write a fascinating fact about each one.
- Read a book containing ancient Egyptian myths. Choose your favourite myth and retell the story.

### **Maths**

Our learning for this half term will be:

- Place value (counting in multiples of 6, 7, 9, 25 and 1000, negative numbers, rounding and estimation).
- Mental addition and subtraction and measures.
- Written addition and subtraction and measures.
- Mental and written multiplication and division.
- Fractions.
- Area and perimeter of rectilinear shapes and capacity.

### **General Reminders:**

**Home Learning:** Home learning will be sent out on a Friday and needs to be returned the following Thursday. Your child will be able to access home learning activities through Purple Mash. They will receive an email every week through the communication and email section on Purple Mash. Please read through the home learning sheet as this gives you the details on the activities. **Please encourage children to practise their times tables every day on TT Rockstars or hit the button.**

**PE: Busy Bees: Monday (Swimming) and Tuesday  
Woodpeckers: Monday and Tuesday**

Please ensure children wear the appropriate summer/winter PE kits when they come to school so they can participate in the lessons.

**Swimming costumes, towels and swimming caps bought in a bag to school with them.**

**Earrings must be removed at home on each P.E day.**

**Reading:** Please continue to read regularly with your child on MYON and the reading book they bring home.

**Water Bottles:** Please make sure your child brings their bottle to school every day. They should contain **water** only.

### **Healthy Snack:**

No snack is provided in Year 4. Children are encouraged to bring a healthy snack (a piece of fruit only) every day for snack.

### **Useful Websites:**

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<https://www.sumdog.com/en/>

<https://trockstars.com/>

### **Summer Dates for your Diary:**

**Term starts-** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April – Ancient Civilisations Day

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Reading Parental Engagement  
2:45pm – 3:20pm

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May – Wonderful Woodpeckers Class  
Assembly

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May – Maths Times Tables Parental  
Engagement 9:15am – 9:45am

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May - Bank holiday

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Spanish Parental Engagement  
2:45pm – 3:20pm

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May - Term ends

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June - Back to School

### **Any other Information:**

If you have any questions about your child's learning, please speak to one of the team. Thank you for your continued support.