



Welcome to the Spring Term in Year 4

Dear Parents and Carers

Please find below some information about the Spring term in our class that you may find useful. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch. My email address is p.coates451@st-anne-pri.durham.sch.uk

- This term our PE slot is on Thursday afternoon. Please come to school wearing your PE kit on those days. On a Tuesday morning, Year 4 will be walking to Woodhouse Close Leisure Centre to attend swimming lessons. Children require either a one-piece bathing suit or shorts/ trunks, a towel and a swim cap. (Goggles are optional.)
- Homework is set on a Friday and to be returned by the following Thursday.
- Reading – Accelerated Reader™ (AR). AR is a computer program that helps teachers manage and monitor your child's independent reading practice. Children choose a book from the school library that falls within their ZPD level to read at home. When they have finished reading, they take a short quiz on the computer - passing the quiz is an indication that the child has understood what has been read. For more information on AR please follow:
<https://www.renlearn.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Parents-Guide-to-Renaissance.pdf>

Literacy	<p>Year 4 will be using Literacy Tree as a provision that provides a rich variety of texts that are thought provoking and enable children to practice skills to read and write.</p> <p>This term's topics explore themes of darkness to light and taking courage. Texts such as <i>Frindleswylde</i> by Natalia and Lauren O'Hara, <i>The Lion and the Unicorn</i> by Shirley Hughes and many more will allow your children to witness character development linked to these themes.</p>
Numeracy	<p>The main focus for mathematics in Year 4, will be heavily focused on multiplication and division. Year 4 will be using their knowledge of this and transferring skills by observing factors, multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1,000 and finally multiplying and dividing by 2- and 3-digit numbers. We</p>

	will later observe length and perimeter, before exploring fractions and decimals.
Science	Year 4 will be working scientifically to understand states of matter, investigating the properties of solids, liquids and gasses. Your children will learn about how energy creates sounds and vibrations. We will explore different ways of producing sound, learning how vibrations relate to what we hear and how pitch and volume can be altered through the use of various materials.
PE	Spring 1 – Dance and Swimming Spring 2 – Badminton and Swimming
Art	Year 4 will be observing and creating sculptures using mega materials. Exploring how different materials can be shaped and joined and learning about techniques used by artists as diverse as Barbara Hepworth and Sokari Douglas-Camp.
DT	Year 4 will be exploring and creating their own mechanical systems, Making and designing mechanical cars that use different methods of movement or creating and developing a car with a working slingshot mechanism.
History	In Year 4, we will complete a local history and geography project- Considering how Bishop Auckland has changed over time, focusing on human and physical features, the immediate environment and comparing this to other global environments.
Geography	In Year 4, we will complete a local history and geography project- Considering how Bishop Auckland has changed over time, focusing on human and physical features, the immediate environment and comparing this to other global environments.
Music	Year 4 will be exploring Changes in pitch, tempo and dynamics (Theme: Rivers) before focusing on aspects of performance using haikus and music.
RE	Year 4 will be asked what do Christians believe about Jesus? We will develop our knowledge about the significance about Jesus, through exploring key events in his life, observing Jesus' teachings and how this has an impact on the lives of Christians today.
PSHE	Year 4 will be learning earning about Human rights and caring for the environment; exploring the role of groups within the local community and appreciating community diversity; looking at the role of local government.
Computing	Year 4 will be using computers to looks at repetition and loops within programming. Pupils will create programs by planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. They will use Logo, a text-based programming language.

Further information about the curriculum content can be found on our school website.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss Coates.

