
SALTWOOD CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

CLASS 4 NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2019

Letter distributed on Monday 14 January

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the Spring Term and another busy few weeks of activity in Year 4. Firstly, may I take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of Miss Preston and myself for your kind cards and presents which were very much appreciated. I hope that you and your families had a wonderful Christmas and a well-earned rest after a busy Autumn Term.

This term in Literacy we shall be looking at Myths and Legends, examining the use of language, characterisation and settings. Next term we will be examining a variety of non-fiction and recount texts. It would help your child if he or she could find myths, legends and fairy tale texts to read. I cannot over-emphasise the importance of hearing your child read as often as possible, ideally at least three times a week. Please make sure that you make a note in your child's reading record when you have heard them. The class are reminded daily that they should bring their school reading book and reading record home each day, and recording reading in the reading record is an important indicator to children how important adults consider reading to be.

It would also be helpful if, as well as hearing your child read, you could read to them. Children learn a great deal about tone, pace, expression and characterisation from hearing an adult read aloud. This is especially applicable this term (Term 3) as we are working on visualisation of pictures which children generate in their "mind's eye" upon hearing a text. As children make the transition from illustrated books to non-illustrated books, this is a very important skill to develop as it aids comprehension and makes the memory of a story more complete and effective. Whilst I appreciate that children veer toward books with more visual stimuli, I would be grateful if you could ensure that any reading book they bring from home is not heavily populated with illustrations. Texts such as the Wimpy Kid series, Pokemon collections and other comic-strip styles should be discouraged. It is not the case that any reading is good reading at this stage as such books do not illustrate the technical aspects of grammar and text presentation that we are trying to equip the children with.

In Maths, we will be looking at fractions and decimals; addition and subtraction (including money); measurement and data; time; timetables and co-ordinates; multiplication and division. To support your child's maths this term please would you give them opportunities to use maths in real-life contexts, particularly time, money and measures.

We shall be studying the following subjects in the other curriculum areas:

Subject	Term 3	Term 4
Science	States of Matter	Animals, including humans (to include digestion and tooth decay)
Geography	Spain as a comparable region/map and key design	Ancient Greece
P.E.	Gymnastics	Gym and outdoor/adventurous games
R.E.	Creation: What do Christians learn from the Creation story?	Salvation, and an examination of Easter at a deeper level.
Art	Printing	Textiles
Music	Exploring melodies and scales	Painting with sounds
I.C.T.	Embedded computers; inputs and outputs; programming Scratch	

Please may I remind you that a full, named PE kit is needed in school at all times. Please check that trainers fit as we go into the new term! Also, can I please stress the need for earrings to be removed at home every Monday and every Thursday throughout Terms 3 and 4 so that your child can participate in PE.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Hunt
Class Teacher