

# Year 4 Newsletter – Summer Term 1



Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to wish you a warm welcome back to the final term of the year! Firstly, we want to start by thanking parents/carers and the children in Year 4 for your continued support and commitment to home learning. We are so proud of each and every child that has been attending both remote learning, and learning in school, they have all continued to embrace their learning and are making the best out of a not so ideal situation. As always, we aim to offer you an insight into the learning that is to take place this half term. As always, coming to the last half term, we know that energy levels and enthusiasm may be waning, but we hope to offer as many positive opportunities as possible for us all to have a fun and enjoyable experience as possible! Please continue to encourage the children to communicate with us through Microsoft Teams or feel free to forward any questions to [homelearning@st-lukes.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:homelearning@st-lukes.towerhamlets.sch.uk), should any problems arise.

## Home learning Timetable:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	<b>9-9.30</b> <b>P.E with Joe Wicks</b>				
<b>Task 1</b>	English	English	English	English	English
<b>Task 2</b>	Maths (Arithmetic)	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths
<b>Task 3</b>	Religious Education	History	Science/ Computing	Destination Reader	French/Art
<b>Other</b> <i>(This terms spellings and times tables can be found in the home learning pack.)</i>	Read a book for 15 minutes  Practise spellings  Practise times tables	Read a book for 15 minutes  Practise spellings  Practise times tables	Read a book for 15 minutes  Practise spellings  Practise times tables	Read a book for 15 minutes  Practise spellings  Practise times tables	Quiz on AR book (if ready)  Test spellings and times tables (with parent/carer/sibling)

**PSHE** and **Computing** tasks will be set each week with longer deadlines. This will allow the children to complete these tasks on days where they finish their work more quickly or have more time. Please continue to encourage your child to read for 15 minutes per day. Books can be found online using EPIC Books (class code: wni0339) or on Accelerated Reader. The link for both websites are available through RM Unify.

The following is an overview of what your child will be taught in the second half of Summer Term. Please do have a look on the website at our chronology for any further details.

In **English**, we will begin by exploring poetry. We will then move onto learning through a text. Our text this term will be *Gangsta Granny* by David Walliams. Many of the children should be familiar with the film. It may be worth watching the film with your child, which is available on BBC iPlayer and Netflix streaming websites. We hope that this popular choice of text will help keep the children motivated during their online learning this half term. The children will continue to write for different purposes and audiences. Each week they will complete one of two short writing tasks, such as instruction writing, persuasive advert, debate, diary passage, letter and a newspaper article. This will lead to the final task, writing a book review. We will dedicate Friday's to grammar, which means that each Friday the children will access a standalone grammar lesson.

In **Destination Reader** this term we will continue to answer comprehension questions, based on unseen extracts. We will use both non-fiction and fiction texts. We will be using all reading strategies with close focus on inferential questions. However, similar to last term, the comprehension questions will allow the children to use all the reading strategies, that they are now familiar with, simultaneously.

Our **Maths** focus this half-term will be on Geometry. We will start by continuing our previous topic of measurement by looking at time. For this we will be looking at both analogue and digital clocks. There will be lots of videos to help us all understand the difference between both of these. In this unit, the children will extend their understanding of 2D shapes by comparing and classifying different types of triangles and quadrilaterals. They consolidate their previous learning on right angles and move on to identifying acute and obtuse angles and ordering angles up to 180°. In symmetry, the children identify lines of symmetry in 2D shapes and create a range of symmetrical images and patterns.

This term for topic we will be studying **Geography**. Our Geography topic will be Deserts. We will begin by dispelling misconceptions about deserts i.e. acknowledging Antarctica as a desert. We will then identify the locations of deserts around the world. Following this, children will conduct a comparative study of climates in deserts and will begin to differentiate between weather and climate. The children will develop an understanding of how deserts are formed. They will then explore desert dwellers, learning in depth about how people are able to inhabit deserts such as Las Vegas, thinking deeply about the positives and negatives of living in this way. Furthermore, this will lead onto desertification; how dry land turns into deserts and becomes inhospitable. They will be introduced to various examples and construct ideas about why they think people are forced to leave land that becomes inhospitable.

In **Science**, our topic will be 'Scientists and Inventors'. In this unit we will learn about famous scientists and inventors linked to the Y4 science curriculum. The children will learn about the dangers posed to living things in Madagascar, and Gerald Durrell's conservation efforts on the island. The children will learn about Alexander Graham Bell and his invention of the telephone, as well as modern improvements on his invention by inventors like James West. Children will look at the early uses of solar energy in homes, invented and built by Maria Telkes and Eleanor Raymond. The many inventions of Garrett Morgan will be looked at as

well as finding out about the discovery of oxygen. Furthermore, they will learn about Lord Kelvin, the man who determined the temperature of absolute zero. Finally, children will find out about the invention of toothpaste, and will invent their own brand of toothpaste to compare against real brands. They will develop their scientific enquiry skills, making observations, predictions and conclusions.

In R.E. this term, we will be looking at the many different pilgrimages undertaken by different religions from around the world. We will be thinking about what we already know about the religions and use this information to help us make informed decisions. We will also be comparing the different pilgrimages to find differences and similarities between them.

Once again, the whole of the year 4 team would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support, and for the hard work, determination and resilience shown by every single Year 4 child and their families. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any assistance.

Best wishes,

Miss Lukwesa and Mr Greenslade