



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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15 September 2017

YEAR 4 TERMLY CURRICULUM LETTER AUTUMN TERM 2017

Dear Parents,

For your information we have outlined below some of the topics that will be covered this term in Year 4. We have already made a good start to our studies and we know that you will make every effort to assist and encourage your child as this term progresses.

Assessments

Following the introduction of the new National Curriculum for Years 1-6 in 2014 and new assessment and reporting arrangements the Abbey School staff will assess the children's level of attainment at the end of each term (December, March, May) in Years 1-6 using the phrases:

- **Securely within Age Related Expectations (ARE)**
- **Broadly within ARE**
- **Below ARE**
- **Above ARE**

Formal 10 minute parent/teacher consultations take place in the middle of the Autumn and Spring Terms (October and February). This is an opportunity to discuss your child's progress, behaviour, social interactions and English and maths strengths and areas for development. The children's English and Maths books will be available for parents to look at. An annual report to parents is produced in the summer term.

Curriculum Meeting

We look forward to seeing many of you at the annual **Year 4 Curriculum Meeting** on Wednesday 27th September at 2.30-3.20pm. On occasions such as these, parents must enter via the front door of school. The Year 4 class will not be in the classroom during the curriculum meeting and normal end of day arrangements will be in place.





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Summary of Objectives for Year 4

The following is a summary of the curriculum we will be covering:

English

Before half term

Non-Fiction: The children will be writing diary entries and a biography based on Neil Armstrong.

Fiction: The children will read and write legends.

After half term

Poetry: The children will use alliteration, similes and descriptive vocabulary to create images.

Fiction: The children will be writing an audio story or podcast on a spooky theme.

Poetry: The children will be writing riddles.

Maths

- Counting, partitioning and calculating: solving multiplication and division problems with arrays.
- Securing number facts: Finding pairs of numbers that total 100 or 1,000, place value.
- Measurement and Statistics: Using standard units of length, converting units of measure and telling the time on an analogue or 24 hour clock. Recording and interpreting information and constructing bar charts.
- Calculating: Adding 3 digit numbers using formal written methods, multiplying 3 digit numbers by a 1 digit number using a written method.
- Fractions/ Decimals: Fractions, mixed numbers and equivalent fractions, place value in decimals.

Science

Before half term our topic is Teeth and Digestion – see key vocabulary.

After half term our topic is States of Matter- see key vocabulary.

As **scientists** the children will be taught to:

-To research how the digestive system works and the structure of teeth.

- Group materials into solids, liquids and gases. Observe changes in state as materials are heated and cooled.

Other areas of study will include:

- In **Computing** we will be using the Internet to find out and research information. We will also be checking and using the information.
- Our class **topic** in the Autumn term is Invaders and Settlers- Anglo-Saxons and Vikings.
- In **Religious Education** we will be thinking about the Creation story and asking big questions. We will be considering the meaning of Advent as preparation for Christmas as well as the deeper meaning of Christmas.



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As **geographers** the children will be taught to:

- Use atlas skills to identify the invaders countries of origin.

As **historians** the children will be taught to:

- Access a variety of sources and comment upon their reliability.
- Interpret historical information to empathise with characters in history.

As **artists** the children will be taught to:

- Develop observational sketching and shading.
- Investigate different perspectives and viewpoints and comment on their effect.

Music

Each week the children will have singing assembly on a Wednesday and a music lesson on a Thursday with Mrs Price.

Ongoing skills: Enjoy making, playing, changing and combining sounds; Experiment with ways of producing sounds - voice, instruments, technology, body sounds; Perform with a good sense of pulse and rhythm; Follow and lead simple performance directions demonstrating understanding; Listen with concentration, responding appropriately to a variety of live and recorded music; Increased understanding and use of basic musical features e.g. dynamics, tempo, pitch; Begin to recognise a link between shape and pitch using graphic notations; Begin to recognise rhythmic patterns found in speech; Demonstrate understanding of the differences between pulse and rhythm. Memorising and joining in a variety of songs for assemblies and services and sing in parts.

What do we expect of you? You can help and support us by:

- **Labelling all items of clothing and providing a water bottle.**
- Listening to your child read each evening.
- Testing times tables on a regular basis.
- Providing safe computer access in order for them to access Maths homework.
- Assisting your child with research and other studies as appropriate.
- Ensuring that your child has their PE kit/ swimming kit in school.
- **Homework** will be set on a Friday and should be **completed by the following Wednesday**. Written homework should not be rushed and should always be presented well using a blue or black pen. The homework will consolidate the work we have done in class or give the opportunity to develop the children's research skills. Maths homework will usually be an online activity but may occasionally be a written task and should be written in pencil.
- **Spelling**- We will be introducing a new spelling scheme this term so there will no longer be a weekly spelling test, although spellings will be sent home for you to look at with your child. A booklet explaining the new way of spellings and how you can help your child will be sent home today via their school bag.
- **Times Tables**- There will be a times tables or Mental Maths activity on a **Wednesday** so please ensure the children regularly read and practise their times tables at home.



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- **Reading**- The children have been given a reading record which will be **collected each Thursday** to be returned by Friday. In order to grow their independence, this should be completed as far as possible by your child. However, please check that your child is completing the reading record and an adult sign it once a week.

Your child will have **PE on Tuesdays and Fridays** with Mr Morgan, qualified sports coach. However, your child should have his/her PE kit in school every day. It is a statutory requirement that all children must participate in games sessions. If your child does not have their kit in on a games day then they will have to participate in the session in their school uniform and school shoes.

In addition, your child will **be swimming this term on a Friday** afternoon. If your child has a genuine medical reason why they cannot take part in a games session or swimming then a note must be provided. If you feel your child is too unwell to take part in PE then please consider whether they are well enough to be in school.

Who will be working with your children this term?

Miss Long is the class teacher. We are also fortunate to have the expertise of Mrs Harris working with us in the role of Teaching Assistant.

If, at any stage, you have questions or require further clarification relating to any aspect of your child's school activities, please do not hesitate to come into school and speak with me in the first instance. I have appreciated your support and assistance so far in this new academic year and I am confident that you will continue to work with us to ensure that your child has a happy and successful term.

Yours sincerely,

Miss V Long
Year 4 Teacher