

Y4 Weekly Newsletter and Homework

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow, this half-term has certainly flown by! As we approach the end of the first half of the spring term, we would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for continuing to support your children with their homework and in supporting us with your positive comments. Well done to the children that engaged in the online learning through Google Classrooms whilst isolating from home. It was lovely to still have them as part of the class and we know that it ensured that no learning was missed.

In English this week, we completed our poetry topic. The children created their free verse poems and we may have some future poet laureate on our hands!

In Maths, we consolidated our division topic, using the bus stop method to solve some rather tricky word problems that involved remainders. The children made sure to check their answers using their knowledge of the inverse. We will of course be re-visiting division in the upcoming terms.

In Science, we explored the concept of soundproofing, which led to an experiment to find the material best at soundproofing.

In our Integrated Studies, the focus was on sportsmanship and what makes a good or bad sportsperson. Discussions went beyond the topic and extended to the games that the children play during break time and lunch time and how we can use the knowledge acquired to help us play more co-operatively with our friends.

In Art, the children used clay to create Greek vases and used paint to add the 'intricate' designs. To be honest, we were pleasantly surprised at how beautiful the final vases looked. There were many uncertain moments with lids breaking, handles falling off, using too much water which meant a blob of soggy clay. However, we got there in the end and the children's work speaks for itself. There were also many positive comments from staff and children walking passed our classrooms.

Reading and Timetables Practise

There has been no formal homework set for the half-term week, however we do kindly ask that the children continue to read and to use Bug Club during this time. All children are expected to read **10 Bug club books per term**. Please read for 20-30 minutes each day. Remember to complete your reading log whenever you finish a book. Don't forget to give it a rating. When you reach the milestones that are printed on the log you will receive a prize in assembly.

Additionally we ask that the children practise their timetables daily. You may be aware that there is a check for year 4 children called the "Multiplication Tables Check" during the summer term, in June. There is no pass or fail mark. The results are for us teachers to use so we can provide an even better education! In primary school, times tables knowledge is vital for quick mental maths calculations and problem solving, as well as for many of the topics children learn further up the school in upper KS2.

Here's what you need to know:

Under the national curriculum primary school children are expected to know their 12 times tables by the

end of Year 4.

The check itself:

- The check is completed online using a computer or tablet.
- It will take no longer than 5 minutes.
- It will feature 25 questions and the children will have 6 seconds to answer each question.
- There's no problem solving or division just simple "3 x 4 = ?" type questions

Practise at Home:

Since maths is such a big subject, and we will of course continue to teach the full curriculum, we will need your continued support to help practise the times tables with your child. Some easy ways to do this include:

- Asking questions such as "What's 7 x 8?"
- Reciting times tables by rote (4 times 1 is 4, 4 times 2 is 8, etc)
- Using apps and games
- Singing times tables songs (there are loads online)
- Ensure your child logs on regularly to Times Tables Rockstars
- They can also use the suggested websites below

<https://tt.serveweb.co.uk/new/> (highly recommended)

<https://talkingtimestables.uk/y4zks2zmtczpracticeztestszmultiplicationztablescheck.php>

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to send us a message on Seesaw or come and speak to us following the dismissal of pupils at the end of the day.

Thank you so much and we hope you have a wonderful and restful half-term.

The Year 4 Team

Certificate Winners

Congratulations to our certificate winners this week: Harrison (4SI), Lily (4SI), Gabriel (4TK), Max (4TK), Emilia (4JJ), Adar (4JJ).

