

Keston Primary School and Nursery

Curriculum Information



Autumn Term Year 4

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to Year 4. We have lots of exciting things planned for this term. We hope you find the following information useful.

Teachers:

Pullman class teachers: Mrs Gauldon (Monday, Tuesday) Mrs Seward (Wednesday- Friday)

Rowling teacher: Mr Andreotti

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Etheridge, Mrs Fairhall and Mrs Mills (1:1).

English

We are focusing on two books one of which will be Ted Hughes' *The Iron Man* (Autumn 1). We will complete a variety of genres including journalistic reports, diaries, report writing, recounts, fiction (setting and characters) and poetry.

Throughout all of our English work we will have a focus on Grammar, Punctuation and Comprehension.

The following links could help you to build on your child's work in school in these areas.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/writing/vocabulary/play/>

<http://www.gynzy.com/teachers/publishers/language-arts/synonyms-and-antonyms/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/game/en29punc-game-beat-the-clock-apostrophes>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/game/en29punc-game-blown-away>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/quiz/q25067687>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/spelling_grammar/punctuation/play/

Mathematics

This term we will be looking at place value and calculations, shape, symmetry, statistics, fractions and time.

The following links will help you when working on maths with your child at home - each of these links have several games.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/shape_space/

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/data/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/number/>

In addition to these topics children will have focused Times Tables and Mental Maths sessions (number stars) once a week. Times Tables will continue to be a focus as they underpin so much of the maths children use throughout their school life. By the end of Year 4 the government expectation is that all children know their Times Tables up to 12. Children will be tested at the end of the year.

The following links may help you when working with your children on their Times Tables at home.

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>

http://www.mad4maths.com/multiplication_table_math_games/

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/game/ma13tabl-game-tables-grid-find>

<http://www.teachingtables.co.uk/>

<http://www.learnyourtables.co.uk/en/index2.htm>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

Explore and Discover

This term in Explore and Discover we will be looking at electricity and sound, including circuits, which will be linked with our work in English on *The Iron Man*. Our Art will also focus on this book and the children will work in groups to create their own sculpture of the Iron Man, which will include a working circuit. **To help with this please could you try to collect some boxes and kitchen roll holders which the children could use to build their sculpture. The final sculpture will have a head roughly the size of a shoe box.**

Our Computing lessons will look at programming and coding. In Autumn 1 we will be developing an educational game through coding and in Autumn 2 prototyping an interactive toy.

In music we will be learning the ukulele with Miss Whinnom every Wednesday. **The children will need to take the ukulele home and bring it back for each lesson.**

In Geography the children will be looking at different kinds of settlements, with a strong link to our History topic, the Anglo-Saxons.

Also linked to the Anglo-Saxons, the children will be learning weaving and embroidery skills.

RE

The RE focus for Autumn will be Buddhism. We will hopefully go on a trip linked to this, please see below.

PE

During the first half of the Autumn term our focus will be use of space, invasion games and sending and receiving. The focus of the second half of the term will be indoor athletics.

PE will take place on a Wednesday morning and we will swim every Thursday afternoon.

We are excited to announce the arrival of the Keston Kilometre. This is a new initiative to get the children active. On days which children do not have PE or swimming, they will go outside for 15 minutes and run/walk/jog around our new kilometre located on the field. Children will not need a change of shoes.

General Information Including Homework

We hope to visit the Buddhist Centre in South Croydon this term and will also have an Anglo-Saxon workshop.

How can you help?

- Encourage your children to read as much as possible and ask them questions to check they understand what they are reading. The children's new planners have useful questions to check their understanding of a text.
- We have a recommended reading list for Year 4 and if you would like any help choosing a book for your child please ask us.
- Practise times tables with your child – see above.
- Take your child to the library to find books about the topics we will be covering.

This year's homework will be English and Maths on alternate weeks. **It will be sent out on a Thursday** whenever possible and is expected to be returned by the following Tuesday. Please support your child with their homework. If they find their homework difficult please encourage them to have a go and they can also attend Homework club on a Monday lunchtime. The children's new planners have a homework guide which includes tips for helping with homework. The planner also includes useful English and Maths prompts in the back.

In addition, new spellings will be sent out on a weekly basis on a Monday. The children will be tested by a dictation on a Monday and then taught the new spellings for the next week. The children will continue to use the Schofield and Sims books and in addition to these spellings, will have five high frequency words/year 3 – 4 new curriculum spellings.

We would really appreciate any volunteers to help with reading, swimming and many other activities. Please let us know when you are available. All adults working in school must have a CRB check. As we are coming up to the winter, we would appreciate it if you could bring in any tissue boxes.

We look forward to working with you this year,

Mrs Seward, Mrs Gauldon and Mr Andreotti