

Welcome to Year 4



Dear Parents

Welcome to the second half of the Spring Term. We hope you enjoyed your half term break and are looking forward to the half term ahead.

We hope that by working together we can make this a happy and very productive half-term for your child, offering them interesting and challenging activities and experiences and ensuring that they make the best possible progress with their learning.

This half term will be having fun learning all about electricity and robots. The children will engage in exciting and practical activities and read our class texts *The Wild Robots* and *The Iron Man*.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to pop in for a chat (the best time is at 3.20 pm). We will be happy to speak to you and/or make an appointment for a more lengthy discussion.

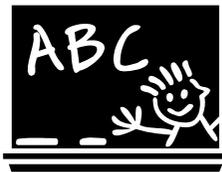
Yours sincerely

Miss Cassidy (Teacher) with Mrs Christie (Teaching Assistant)



Please look inside...

Some Important Reminders...



Start of the day. We would be grateful if you would ensure that your child arrives on time for school. The whistle blows at 8.50. Children who arrive late are missing out on important information and instructions for the day and miss our early bird activities. We award certificates and prizes for good attendance. We are aiming for 98%-100% - please play your part in helping us to meet this ambitious target.

End of the day. School finishes at 3.20pm. Children should be picked up by their parents or carers from the relevant classroom door. Please inform us if someone new is collecting your child. If they are unknown to us we may not allow your child to go with them.

Uniforms and Coats. We would be grateful if these could be clearly named. Please ensure children bring a coat to school everyday, even if the weather is warm that morning. The English weather can soon change so we like to be prepared!

Reading. Your child has a guided reading session for half an hour every day with their class teacher. They also have an opportunity to read their new reading book on a 1:1 basis with an adult as often as possible. It is therefore vital that reading books are returned every day. A shared reading session at home is very valuable. You can write a comment or simply sign your child's Home-Link Reading Record Book.

PE. This term, P.E. lessons will take place on a **Tuesday**. Children may come to school dressed in their P.E kits - shorts/jogging bottoms/leggings, plain white t-shirt and black plimsolls. No jewellery should be worn on P.E. days and long hair should be tied back.

Children who choose to work with Arj for football on a lunchtime should bring their kit into school on a **Wednesday**.

Learning at Home. Learning at home books are sent home every Friday with spellings and space to practice multiplications. These should be practised at least three times a week and returned to school each Thursday. Children are also expected to practise their reading at least three times a week. Could adults please sign the children's books and support the children to move up the Eager Reader chart.

Thank you for your continued support, it really makes a difference!

English: In English, the children will be reading *The Wild Robot* for their class text. They will be using figurative language and exciting vocabulary to write a setting descriptions. They will also be using expanded noun phrases with prepositional phrases to add detail in their writing. The children will write a narrative using all of this knowledge to create a vivid image in the reader's mind. They will also write a non-chronological report of a survival guide to inform the reader of dangerous animals within the forest.

Maths: In maths this half term the children will be multiplying 2-digit and 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers using a formal method. They will also divide 2 and 3 digit numbers by 1-digit numbers. They will find the area of rectilinear shapes by counting squares. They will learn about fractions including adding and subtracting fractions, finding equivalent fractions and finding fractions of quantities

Science - electricity: This half term, the children be learning about electricity. They will find out about electricity around them, will understand what is meant by conductor and insulator and will construct their own circuits

Geography: This half term, the children will be learning about the northern and southern hemispheres. They will learn about main seasonal and geographical differences between the two and locate countries from them. The children will also learn about South American countries and focus on key facts and information.

Computing: In computing this half term, the children will be learning all about the different kinds of animations including stop motion animations, pulse animations and GIF animations.

Design Technology: This half term in DT, the children will be designing and making their own light box using their knowledge of circuits from science to light up a specific part of their drawing. They will also add a mechanical component to their design using linkages.

R.E: The children will be learning the meaning of Good Friday and understand how salvation links to Holy Week. The children will find out what different churches do for Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

French: This half term, the year 4 children will be learning how to describe animals using colours. They will be using the story 'Petit-Bleu et Petit-Jaune' to be introduced to the concept of gender of nouns and ask how old someone is and responding. They will also be learning about the public gardens in Paris and practise their phonics sounds through the song 'Le Chat en Chocolat'.

Music: The children will be learning all about different beats and rhythms and will have the opportunity to play different types of drums

P.E - Skipping: This half term the children will learn different skipping skills and movements in preparation for taking part in the Sunderland skipping festival.

Personal, Social, Health Education - Health Me: The children will be learning about friendships and how different groups can be formed and valued. They will also learn to celebrate their inner strength and have a clear understanding of what it right and wrong.

Top tips for Year 4 parents



- Encourage your child to read every day (20 minutes would be ideal).
- Even if your child is already a fluent reader, you can still support him/her by exploring their understanding of what they have read e.g. Describe what has happened so far. How does character 'A' feel, what do you think he/she will do next, why?
- Practise their times tables, every day! They are expected to know all tables up to 12 x 12.
- Encourage your child to pay for things at shops, working out the expected change.
- Practise telling the time, both digital and analogue. e.g. If I pick you up at 6 o'clock how long will you have at the swimming pool?
- Encourage children to look at tables and charts to figure out how they work e.g. train timetables, television schedules.
- Ask your child about their school topics and how their knowledge is progressing. What experience do you have in these areas amongst your family and friends?
- Take an interest in their homework; make sure they hand it in on time. If your child has not understood what they need to do and you are unsure how best to explain, get them to ask the teacher as soon as possible.
- Encourage your child to become more independent – Allow your child to take responsibility for their belongings. Encourage them to prepare their bag for school the night before.

GPS on Social Media



We have 2 social media accounts that you can follow to keep up with what your child is doing. Our 3 accounts are:

Facebook: @grangetownprimary

Twitter: @Grangetown_PS