

Welcome to Year 4



Dear Parents

Welcome to the Spring Term. We hope you enjoyed your Christmas holidays, and that you are looking forward to the exciting activities we have planned for Year 4 this year!

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 life in Ancient Greece. The children will engage in interesting and exciting activities and reading our class book *Leo and the Gorgon's Curse*.

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.

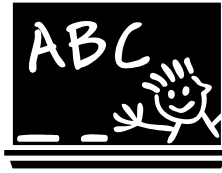
Yours sincerely

Mrs Millican (Teacher), Mrs Christie, Mr Newby (Teaching Assistants)



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** morning. Children may come to school dressed in their P.E kits - shorts/jogging bottoms/leggings, plain white t-shirt and sensible trainers for walking to Southmoor. No jewellery should be worn on P.E. days and long hair should be tied back. Swimming costumes, hats (girls) and towels (goggles are optional) should be brought to school.

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

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 *Leo and the Gorgons Curse* for their class text. They will use this text to create character descriptions for the mythical creatures and will use similes, fronted adverbials and sentences using more than one clause in their writing. The children will write a narrative linked to the story, recreating their favourite part. They will also write a persuasive advertisement to arrange a mini school Olympics.

Maths: In maths this half term, the children will multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100. They will recall and use multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 x 12. They will use factor pairs in mental calculations and will multiply two and three digit numbers by one digit numbers using formal written layouts. They will be finding the area of rectilinear shapes by counting squares.

Science– Animals including humans: This half term, the children will identify the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions. They will also describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans and construct and interpret a variety of food chains.

History: This half term the children will be learning all about Ancient Greece and studying Greek life, their achievements and their influence on the Western world.

Computing: In computing this half term, the children will be creating an eBook. They will design and create an eBook related to Ancient Greece using tools to add text, change the background, add shapes and images, edit pages and use the microphone to add voice recordings.

Art: This half term in Art, the children will be studying the artist Robert Delaunay. They will be experimenting with colours to create their own colour palettes and learn how to use the layering technique to print patterns and shapes.

R.E: The children will be learning all about Hinduism. They will identify some Hindu deities and say how they help Hindus describe God. They will learn about some Hindu stories and find out how Hindus worship.

French: This half term, the Year 4 will be introduced to some names of animals and they will use this new vocabulary to form sentences to describe pictures. They will use their phonic knowledge to improve pronunciation of these new words. The song 'Le Rock n Roll des Animaux' will also form part of their learning

Music: This half term we will be developing our pulse and groove through improvisation using clapping, singing and glockenspiels. Our theme is 'How does music improve our world?' We will be listening and responding to songs about this.

P.E - Swimming: This half term the children will be visiting Southmoor Academy where they will have swimming lessons to become more confident in the water. They will increase their stamina and work towards being able to swim 25 metres.

Personal, Social, Health Education - Dreams and Goals: The children will be learning about how to stay motivated when doing something challenging. They will develop their ability to keep trying when work is difficult. They will set themselves achievable goals and will help others to achieve their goals.

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 3 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

Instagram: grangetown_ps