

Year 4 Learning Letter (Autumn 2)

November 2017

Issue 2

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Believe in world of possibilities

Year 4's Learning News

This term sees Year 4's learning about the Romans reach fever pitch. We will round off the whole topic with a Roman Day where the children will be able to showcase their learning with an 'open classroom' event at the end of the day.

Homework is changing this term, with a real focus on the key skills of reading, spelling and times tables. Homework will keep an expectation of a child reading daily with an adult, and certainly no less than 4 times a week. Spellings will be set linked to the national curriculum guidance for the year group. Time tables to be learned in line with the schools policy and will be the final weekly expectation.

In the Spring Term an Independent Homework Project will be set in Year 4. Periodically, whole school homework activities on a particular theme will be set.

Upcoming Events

13th - 17th November -Anti-Bullying Week.

Tuesday 21st November - Roman Day -classrooms open at 2.30pm -3.00pm.

Thursday 23rd November Parent Workshop - Spelling in Year 4 2.30pm to 3.00 pm

Friday 24th November Christmas Fair evening

Thursday 30th November / Friday 1st December - Parent /Pupil Progress Meetings

Tuesday 12th December - pm Year 4 Christmas party

Wednesday 13th December - Christmas Lunch

Friday 15th December - last day of term end 2.00pm.

What we will be learning...with top learning tips

Writing ... historical stories and writing to discuss or persuade

After completing their work on writing their own story set in Roman Times, the children will explore 2 other purposes of writing. They will look at writing to discuss an idea, as well as writing to persuade the reader.

Top tip – Learn the 'root' word so that you only then need to add a suffix or prefix correctly to spell it accurately.

Reading

Children must remember to bring their Reading Records and school reading book in every day. The expectation is that they read to an adult at least 4 times a week. There are times in the afternoon when we have time for free reading; in this time children can bring in newspapers, magazines or anything else they enjoy reading once they have spend some time on their reading scheme book..

Learning Top Tip – Find author's who have written a series of books, so that you know ones you can go onto because you enjoyed the earlier novels in the series.

Maths...

This half term we have started off by looking at division and factor. We will go on to explore angles and the properties of triangles and quadrilaterals. We will then investigate symmetry, fractions and decimals

Children will bring home with them the same times table each week until they are confident and have achieved bronze, silver and gold stars in weekly tests.

Learning Top Tip -Work back from 10x's to find 8x's or 9x's more quickly

GRAMMAR – the expectations, which children need to know and be able to apply in their writing and reading are:

determiner, pronoun, the possessive apostrophe, fronted adverbials and inverted commas.

Learning Top Tip –Remember to put punctuation before the closing inverted commas when writing speech. Keep the sheep in the pen!



Our Welly Walk with Year 1.

What we will be learning...

Science - our topic this half term will be 'Animals including humans. We explore food chains and how the digestive system works.

Art - we will continue to make props and artwork for the Roman Day.

History - On Tuesday 21st November we would love the children to come to school dressed as a Roman. They will spend the day being Roman and carrying out fun activities.

PE - we will continue with Golf and Gymnastics on Monday and Wednesday. Kit must be in school on both these days.

ICT - we are using the programme, "Scratch" to design a toy.

Jigsaw (PSHCE) - 'Celebrating Difference' is our topic this term. The children will look at similarities and differences between one and other. They will then go on to look for positive solutions to solving friendship problems they may encounter which will link to the 'Anti - Bullying' Week message this year.

Our 'Edge' Project will be based around the skill of Communication, and the children will be working with Year 1 developing their reading skills, as well as, enhancing their spoken language skills.



The Edge at BPS: Communication

Being a successful communicator when we write or speak is an invaluable skill for life. Thinking about what engages the person we are trying to communicate with, as well as improving our own listening skills are important parts of being an effective communicator.

Home Learning ideas...

This term we are going to be completing our learning on our topic 'Worlds Collide.'

Perhaps you might like to try to...

- Make a 'junk' model of the human digestive system. (suggested by Mr Cox);
- Design an analogue clock using Roman numerals. (Mrs Pitfield thought of this);
- Organise your toys at home into a Roman legion and act out a battle between the Celts and Romans (suggested by Mrs Dearnley);
- Photograph foot chains you find in your own garden or nearby park. (said Mr Taylor).

Visit our ever improving website - it has lots of useful top tips, resources & links to great learning sites!

Improving pupil voice, supporting pupil choice

School Council News and Views.....inc CHILDREN IN NEED

I just wanted to remind you about 'Children in Need' on Friday 17th November. There will be a cake stall at the end of the school day on Thursday 16th November. Please bring in any donations for it at the start of the day. Friday will be non-uniform, without a particular theme, but with the usual request for a donation of around £1 for taking part, collected on Friday.