



Jessie Younghusband School

Year 4 – Curriculum Letter – Spring Term 2024

Please let me start with a really big thank you for the many cards and presents that you sent: the vouchers for Costa, the candle and chocolates and miniature rose as well as gifts from the class including some super thick socks and a fun game that my family and I enjoyed playing. I will save my voucher for something special in the new year! I hope that you have all had an enjoyable break.

Welcome to the spring term in Year 4. The purpose of this curriculum letter is to give you useful information relating to your child's learning over the coming term.

Reminders:

- As last term, **home learning activities** will be sent home on a Friday, to be completed by the following Wednesday. Spelling test and tables quiz will be on Friday mornings.
- Our **P.E. days** will continue to be on **Wednesday** and swimming on **Thursday** with some additional sessions this half term, with our amazing dance teacher, Rachael Boarer every **Friday**. On Thursdays, we will continue to meet at Westgate leisure Centre, as we did last term. (starting 11th January)
- Please send a written note if your child has a verruca and cannot do P.E. barefooted or if your child is unable to take part in P.E. for a medical reason. For safety reasons, no watches or jewellery should be worn during P.E. lessons. If your child wears earrings and it is not possible for them to be removed for P.E, we will tape them up.
- **Regular reading** is essential, reading with your child will help to improve their fluency, confidence and understanding. Reading does not always have to be just from a book, it can be a magazine or children's newspaper. Please use the reading comprehension sheet at the front of the comments book to give you ideas for questions and to record your reading.
- It is important that your child practises their **times tables** regularly as we continue to approach the Year 4 Multiplication Check in the Summer term. Some fun websites we use to improve fluency are '**TT Rockstars**', and '**Hit the Button**'. You can also find practise the Multiplication Check layout by typing '**The Maths Factor Times Table Check**' into Google.



This term:

In the first half of this term, we are putting on our warm clothes and diving into the world of Antarctica to investigate the life of Earnest Shackleton and his expedition in our Geography learning theme, 'Mountain Explorers!' We will have a main focus on Shackleton as an explorer, whilst also identifying mountain ranges across the world, comparing these to the conditions in the United Kingdom. We will be writing letters to explorers, making information posters, going on a virtual walk-up Mt Snowdon and learning all about how mountains are formed.



In the second half of the spring term, our learning theme will be named 'Potions'. This is a Science based theme all about the changing states of matter. In this unit we will be learning through hands-on science activities and experiments. We will be creating our own marvellous potions and observing their changing states and writing instructions on how to create these.

Ideas for supporting your child's learning:

- Keep reading regularly with your child at home.
- Encourage your child to practise their times tables and learn their spellings.
- Find out about Shackleton's Journey together by reading books and researching the topic on the internet.

If you have any questions as the term progresses, or would like to discuss anything with me, please catch me at the end of the school day, or contact the office to make an appointment, if it is more convenient.

Thank you for your continued support and best wishes for a very happy 2024.

Mrs Saunders