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# Year 4 Newsletter

## Summer 1—2023/2024



### Notices and Reminders

Reading - Please continue to read with your children for 5 minutes every night. Asking them questions about their understanding of the book is incredibly beneficial.

Timestables – children should be using timestable rock stars at least 5 minutes a day, the more the better!

Spellings and homework will continue to be issued and collected weekly.

### Key dates

Friday 19th April – Athlete Visit

Wednesday 24th April – Year 3 and 4 Football tournament

### Reading

Asha and the Spirit Bird

This term, we have a beautiful and immersive story set in the Himalayas. Guided by a bird, which Asha believes to be the spirit of her grandmother, they set out to find her father.



Packed with humour, wisdom and a satisfying twisty plot our story takes us on a magical journey that links nicely with our geography unit on the Himalayas

### Writing

In the first part of the term, we will be using the exciting warning tale, *Staying Out*, as a basis for writing our own stories. Throughout this unit of work, the children will be learning how to use dialogue to develop a character, and we will be learning how to punctuate speech accurately.

Later in the term, we will be looking at the structure and layout of an explanation text, and writing explanations for how to put up a tent.



### Maths

This half term the children will be learning about decimals, such as calculating halves and quarters as decimals. The children will also be learning about calculations involving money using the four operations as well as time. Time will involve children converting different units such as seconds to minutes, solving time duration problems and reading analogue and digital time.

## Science



In science this half term, the children will be learning all about the world of sound. They will be discovering the mechanics of how we actually hear, how changing pitch and dynamics affect the way a soundwave looks, and carrying out experiments to further embed their learning.

## History

In History this half term, the children will be learning about the earliest ancient civilisations including Ancient Sumer. They will also be learning about how the Sumerians lived, their religious practices and some Sumerian advancements such as the wheel, mathematics and time.



## DT

In DT this half term, the children will be learning about fastenings, before designing, making a prototype for and then producing their own book sleeve. They will consider fabric, fastenings, size, theme and decoration.



## PE

In PE this half term, the children will be working towards playing a cricket match. Each week they will be building on their techniques of throwing and striking a ball, defending a ball as well as ways to field a ball in a cricket match.



## Computing

In computing this half term, the children will be looking at using animation within computer programmes. They will build up the knowledge and skills to be able to apply this in creating a stop motion animation. This includes looking at moving images, exploring how frames work, planning a successful animation and finally creating a stop motion animation.



## PSHE

In PSHE this half term, the children will be looking at how their choices make a difference to others and to the environment. They will be learning about what human rights are, what responsibilities they have to themselves and to the world around them and how anti-social behaviour impacts people and the community.



## French

In French this half term, the children will be learning about nationalities, days of the week, months of the year and numbers from 1 – 31. This is to enable them to read, write and speak the date in French with increasing accuracy.



## Homework or Suggested books for reading

With the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check in June, we expect the children to be practising regular on Times Tables RockStars.

