

Welcome back!

I hope you had a great Christmas and are looking forward to the new term. We have lots to look forward to and I plan to make sure your children feel both motivated, enthused and challenged in their learning throughout the year.

#### **Equipment:**

In class 4, the children are encouraged to have their own writing equipment in a small pencil case. **Blue gel or ink pens only please** and a **coloured biro for editing**. They also need pencils and highlighters. Coloured pencils and pens are useful but we do have a good stock of these in class.

As always, the children are encouraged to bring a water bottle to keep them hydrated and help their concentration.

The children will have PE twice a week (**Tuesday and Wednesday**) but should always have their **labelled** PE kit in school. It is important that they have the correct clothing and are responsible for it. As we experience some of the coldest weather of the year this term, pupils should always have a warm coat in school.

#### **Homework:**

The children will receive Spelling and Maths homework every week. Weekly spellings will be set on Monday and tested the following Monday. Maths homework will also be set on Monday and due that Friday.

Many of the expectations and additional responsibilities they are given in class 4 are in preparation for secondary school where they will of course be expected to be independent. We recommend at this stage in the year that parents of Year 6 pupils equip them with SATs revision support books to prepare for the tests and help them take responsibility for their own learning when at home.

If you have any concerns or worries please come and speak to me or another member of staff, or send a brief note in with your child.

Miss Martindale and Mrs Charter

### **Spring Term Overview**



**Maths:** Our main focus this term is to develop a deeper understanding of number, proportion and measurement through **high level reasoning**:

**Operations:** Pupils will recap on the meaning of the equals sign; Use their knowledge of the order of operations to carry out calculations involving the four operations and Use simple formulae to express missing number problems algebraically.

**Ratio and Proportion:** We will reason with what fractions; how to multiply proper fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers and consider how fractions relate across mathematical domains for example making links to interpreting pie charts.

**Measurement:** *Can you convert between different units of metric measure?* (kilometre and metre; centimetre and metre; centimetre and millimetre; gram and kilogram; litre and millilitre) Solve problems involving converting between units of time. *Have you yet to master angles?* Recognise angles where they meet at a point, are on a straight line, or are vertically opposite, and find missing angles. **Ask your child about the times table weekly challenge!**

#### **English:**

**Writing:** This term the children will be busy building their vocabulary through a mixture of high level fictional genres including Lewis Carroll's 1865 fantasy novel: 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland' and Ray Bradbury's science fiction: 'All Summer in a Day'. We will begin however with writing our very own spooky narrative inspired by texts such as 'Uncle Montague's Tales of Terror'.

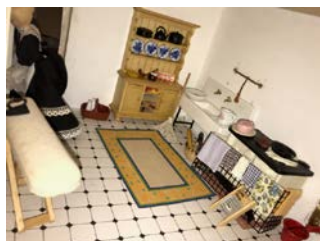
This term will also cover non-fiction writing. Once our scientists have met Charles Darwin and been to the Tring Museum, they will write a biography of his life. **It is worth noting that there will be a heavy focus on grammar, spelling and comprehension throughout the year to support Year 6 in the lead up to SATs.**

**Reading:** Although many of the children are confident readers, it is important that they continue to develop their skills of reading, understanding and questioning. An hourly guided whole class reading session will take place once a week alongside two focused whole class sessions. Our focus will be Non-Fiction, exploring the features of different types of text e.g. Explanation, Information, magazine, diary and adverts. To continue to build confidence with different genre of fiction our "Book Bingo" challenge is underway, as we added many new titles to our library. The children will be expected to have a free-choice reading

book with them every day. Please support your child by checking that they are reading **every day**, including to an adult as often as possible.

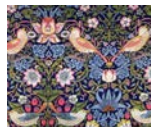
**Science** – This term Class 4 will explore 'Evolution' and take part in a whole school Science Week. We will also develop our knowledge on the greatest contributor to Evolution: Charles Darwin. This topic will include a biographical piece of writing on the scientist.

**RE** - The Spring term will be spent helping children to understand and compare key beliefs held by Christians and other world religions with a focus this term on Hinduism including a trip to BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir - Popularly known as the 'Neasden Temple' with Class 3.



**Geography / History:** For the first part of the term we are excited to announce our History topic: 'The Victorians'. To start this theme children investigate the Victorian world in miniature. They find out that Dolls Houses are more than toys - they are excellent historical artefacts! They develop their understanding of what life was like for both the rich and the poor and we will eventually build our own dolls house in **Design and Technology**.

**Art:** In keeping with our Victorian theme, we will be looking at William Morris, one of the 19th century's most influential artists.



**PE:** The children will be taught Gymnastics a sports coach on Wednesdays and a class teacher on Thursdays. For the first half of the term they will also be taught Dance and Rugby on Tuesdays. There may be sporting opportunities (including cycling proficiency) through the term and I will pass on details as they arise.

**PSHE:** Our theme is Staying Healthy and Being Safe. Having been to Hazard Alley we plan to apply these skills on the road by completing our cycling proficiency test.

**MFL:** It will mainly involve speaking and listening and writing basic words and phrases in French.

**Computing:** At Little Gaddesden School this is integral to teaching and learning. This term class 4 will design, write and debug programs that accomplish specific goals. They will also have the opportunity to solve problems by decomposing them into smaller parts and use sequence, selection, and repetition in programs. The children will also have many opportunities to make use of the Laptops and Ipads across the curriculum.

## Class 4



*"...curious and creative thinkers,  
independent and enthusiastic learners  
and confident individuals..."*

Little Gaddesden CE Primary School

