

Welcome back,

I hope you had a wonderful Christmas. Thank you so much for all the generous gifts you gave us, it is really kind of you . You must feel very proud of your child's success in our production Peter Pan.

Now we are looking forward to the new term. This an overview of our curriculum.

English: Our writing is rooted in 'reading as a writer', so **the most important way you can help your child is by spending 20 minutes a day asking them questions about a page you've heard them read** in their reading book. To help establish a regular routine, **Reading Passport continues** this term , so do sign their reading record . We already have one pupil who has completed it. They receive a certificate and book from Mrs Elkes in our celebration assembly.

Our first piece of writing is a setting description, based on our whole school book by Amanda Gorman (the young poet at Joe Biden's inauguration), called 'Change Sings'. After that, we will enjoy diary writing based on Mini Grey's 'Hermelin'. Talk for Writing tools will help the pupils think of ways to engage the reader and build an appropriate writing toolkit .

Reading: An hourly-guided whole class guided reading session will take place once a week. Questions types will be varied to build VIPERS: vocabulary, inference, prediction, explaining author's choice, retrieval and summarising skills .

Maths: Our focus this term is arithmetic and fluency, so pupils are confident on the best strategy to choose .Speedy recall of Times Tables is essential, **so please ensure your child is regularly using TT Rockstars**. We will then develop a deeper understanding of fractions, proportion, geometry and measurement.

Science – Earth and Space: Class 4 will be focusing on the movement of the Earth in relation to the Sun and other planets in the solar system. We will also learn about the moon's movements in relation to the Earth. This will enable us to develop our understanding of how days and seasons are created. Alongside this, we will continue to develop our scientific enquiry skills by recording and analysing data from a range of sources.

RE RE this term will focus on answering the question of why the resurrection is important to Christians.

History: Building on our prior learning in the Autumn, on the impact of the Romans, Class 4 will learn all about the invasions of Britain that took place after the Roman withdrawal , relating the Anglo-Saxons to our local history and understanding conversion to Christianity in Britain.

Geography: Did you know the Saxons settled in Little Gaddesden and that Gaddesden was originally called Goat Valley? In addition to developing our map reading skills by locating the seven Anglo-Saxon kingdoms in the UK, we will also be exploring the local Geography of Little Gaddesden from 570 AD to 1066.

PSHE: This term we will be developing our awareness of Internet safety alongside learning about our rights and responsibilities. We will consider how the media can influence opinions and emotions and how to ensure we respond appropriately to maintain our wellbeing. We will evaluate risks in different situations and consider how to respond safely.

MFL:We will continue our introduction to speaking and listening to basic words and phrases in French, learning numbers to 20, birthdays and 'look at me'.

Computing: At Little Gaddesden School this is integral to teaching and learning. This term, our Computing is linked with our PSHE and will focus on how to use the Internet safely and where to seek advice and support if we need it.

Pencil Case and Water Bottle:

Children are encouraged to have a small pencil case stocked with a blue gel pen (not a friction pen or biro please), HB pencil, rubber and a highlighter. It helps them to bring a water bottle daily too, to keep them hydrated and help their concentration.

PE:The children will have PE twice a week **Tuesday and Thursday** and learn dance and gymnastics this term.

Homework:The expectations to complete homework in class 4 are in preparation for secondary school , where they will of course be expected to be independent. There will be **Spelling and Grammar: set Friday, plus either maths or reading set on Tuesday.** It will always be on Google Classroom.

Zones of Regulation: We continue to support pupils to express their feelings and regulate their emotions through Zones of Regulation strategies. This will help them grow their independence as learners, ready for transition to secondary. Our first Zones of Regulation check-ins, have found most children writing 'tired'..... some early nights will help them. It's going to be busy!

If you have any concerns or worries please phone or e-mail in the first instance, then we can follow it up.

Best wishes,

Mrs Charter, Mrs Craft, Mrs Pearce and Mr Thompson.

Class 4 Spring 2022 Newsletter



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