



Year 4 News

Spring Term

January
2024

Welcome back to Year 4. It has been lovely seeing the children again after their Christmas break, they have settled quickly into the Spring term.

Maths: This term we will continue to work on mental calculations involving multiplication and division, as well as formal written methods. The children will also be learning more about fractions and decimals. Again, we would like to emphasise the importance of learning and practising times tables at home, as they are an integral part of everyday learning in Maths and it will help your child to gain more confidence in all areas of their maths learning. We shall continue with a weekly times table focus and will also frequently use the app Timestables Rockstars.

Literacy: Over the term we will be exploring different genres, looking at their content, structure, style and vocabulary. We will be working on grammar rules and spelling patterns. For the first half term, we will be exploring the story of Beowulf which has links to our history topic. Just before half term, we will be focussing on Chinese New Year, and are looking forward to the children creating some poetry related to the Year of the Dragon. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the continued importance of regular daily reading at home. Reading books should be in school daily and reading logs should be signed and in school at least once a week.

Science: This half term we will study matter and the properties of solids, liquids and gases. After half term we will be looking into the water cycle.

History: Our topic will be the Scots and Anglo-Saxons this half term. This topic will continue chronologically after Easter when we explore the Vikings and their significance.

Geography: After half term, our focus shifts from History to Geography and the children will have the opportunity to take a journey to other parts of Europe and explore the varied climate zones found there.

French: This term we will be building on our knowledge of French adjectives to describe members of our family and learning how to describe the weather in French, as well as give directions in different French cities. French will be led by ourselves, and on alternate weeks each class has a lesson led by Mrs Bottomley.

P.E: This term in PE, swimming will continue for both classes, and we have already sent the dates home. Once we have confirmation of the days for each class for Spring term 2 we will inform you. Children will continue to need to bring a PE kit to school on Mondays as, when they are not swimming, they will have PE in school. This term our focus is invasion games (dodgeball) and building on our gymnastics skills from last term by using the large hall equipment. Please ensure all items of PE kit are labelled so that we can get them back to their owner quickly should they go missing. PE kits should comprise of a white T-shirt, black shorts and trainers/plimsolls, in a named bag. Long hair should be tied back, and earrings should only be small studs.



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RE: This half-term we will look at Christianity and the Holy Trinity, and after the half term break, we will look at Sikhism, and Guru Nanak and his teachings.

Art: In Art, we will be focusing on Oenone Hammersley and her environmental based artwork. We will be using oil pastels to create observational images.

Computing: We will be exploring programming through Scratch.

Home Learning: We will give out spellings and times tables on Google Classroom to learn for homework which will be tested the following Friday. Maths homework will also be given out once a week (on a Friday) and should be completed, where appropriate, in the orange learning journals and handed in the following week.

School Educational Visits: We continue to be committed to offering a variety of school trips to enrich the curriculum we offer children here at Deansfield. As well as increasing children's self-esteem and confidence, trips are hugely successful when they are part of our long-term curriculum planning and have clear links to the classroom. As you know, we introduced a 'pay as you go' method in September. Further information is available on our internet: [School-Trips-parents-letter-200623](#). Your prompt payment via Bromcom is very much appreciated.

On Friday 22nd March, we will be visiting the Gurdwara in Woolwich to support our RE learning on Sikhism. This is a morning visit for both classes on the same day and we will be asking for parent volunteers to support us. If you know that you can, please do let us know.

Thank you, Mrs Wollaston and Miss Bajracharya, Year 4 teachers.