

Year 4 Newsletter

Spring 1 2021/22



ENGAGE
INSPIRE
EMPOWER

Our topic this half term is:

The World's kitchen



Welcome back.

We hope that you had a great break. This half term we will be focusing on The World's Kitchen and learning about food and farming around the world. We will be extending our understanding and knowledge of Geography beyond the local area. Other areas of learning are detailed below...

Important Dates

- **POWer Project presentation 3rd February 2021.**

PE

This half term's focus in PE will be dance. We will be looking at contemporary dance and learning how to adapt movements, create sequences with a theme and build on our understanding of moving in time to the music.

Our P.E Lessons are every Monday morning. As we are inside please ensure your children have a suitable white t-shirt and blue shorts. Children are to continue coming into school in P.E kit.

Life Skills

The children will working on the 'Life Skills' programme. This is delivered in PSHE and RE lessons and helps children to tackle issues such as self-esteem or peer pressure. Following each lesson, you will receive a letter outlining what the children have learnt in the day's session and how you can support them at home with any questions they have.

Homework

We absolutely loved seeing all of the wonderful POWer projects last half term! Thank you for your support and encouragement in helping the class to produce some stunning work. This half term's POWer project is linked to our new topic, The World's Kitchen.

All children should continue to complete both their **Reading/Writing journals and spellings** weekly.

Parent Consultations

If you would like to discuss your child's progress or have any concerns please email us on the below emails:

Fenella on lilac@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk

Jo on maple@jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk

The Year 4 Team:

Lilac Class: Fenella, Josh and Arleone.

Maple Class: Jo, Sharon and Shaheda.

Maths

As the children are growing more familiar with the White Rose scheme of maths, we will be building on the skills they have developed in the 4 operations (add, subtract, multiply, divide) by attempting longer multiplication and division using formal methods and the grid method. Children will move through the concrete-pictorial-abstract learning cycle to master these concepts.

During the first few weeks, we look at factor pairs, and efficient long multiplication, before progressing on to learning about area. Children will build on their base knowledge from learning about perimeter in Autumn 2, and progress on to calculating the area in cubic measurements.

We are looking forward to really expanding our maths skills this term, and practising our times table recall to be as quick and accurate as possible by using maths games such as Hit the button, and regular times table online question practise.

English

This half-term the children will be working with the text ***Who let the Gods out?*** By ***Maz Evans***. The book is a wonderful story about a shooting star crashing to Earth and putting a young boy called Elliot in the path of a Greek Gods mission.

Whilst working with the book we will be focusing on developing our non fiction writing skills and progressing our writing to include more complex sentences.

During our weekly Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar sessions, we will be focusing on using homophones and sentence structure. In particular we are encouraging the class to add more sophisticated detail to the writing.

Music

We will be learning the Anti-Bullying song called 'Stop!' and learning how to write our own lyrics in time to the pulse of the song.

Science

This half-term we will be studying the 3 main states of matter; solids, liquids and gases. We will explore what the properties of these states of matter are, before delving into exciting experiments to investigate changing states. Children will discover particle formations and how they change relating to each individual state of matter.

We are looking forward to our freezing and melting experiment, which may involve chocolate!

Finally, we will investigate condensation and evaporation by taking a look at the water cycle and analysing what changes in matter are happening every day in our natural environment.

Humanities and Topic Geography

In our topic, we will investigate geographical questions about the human characteristics of a location and explain own views about locations, giving reasons.

We will also use maps and atlases to locate countries, continents and oceans, using a range of resources to identify the key human features of a location. We will look at why certain foods can only be grown in locations around the world.

In addition, we will focus on 'Sustainable Food' and 'Zero Carbon Energy'. The children will investigate how food is produced on a large scale how altering this may benefit our health and future. We will also look at the use of fossil fuels and how these are increasingly being replaced by 'cleaner' forms of energy, also known as 'Zero Carbon Energy'.

Spanish

In Spanish the children will be building on their conversational language and continuing to build their vocabulary around using the verb 'Tener'.

Computing

The children will be progressing their coding skills through the use of block coding with the final aim of creating an animation.