



## Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year 4

Spring 1st Half Term: January 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! Thank you for all your lovely gifts and cards. We hope that you had a relaxing Christmas and that your children are looking forward to the new term in Year 4.

We will start the term with our **Science** topic 'Switched On'. We will learn how to make a circuit including how to make a bulb light. We will investigate the role of a switch in a circuit and also learn about conductors and insulators.

In **Geography**, our topic is 'Is Climate Cool?' The children will learn to read weather and climate maps, and learn how weather and climate are generalised into world climate zones. The concept of biomes will be also be explored.

In **Art**, the children will develop their painting skills using our text 'The Pebble in my Pocket' as a starting point.

In **English**, we will start by looking at explanation texts and writing one linked to our Science topic. We will then use a short film titled 'The Lighthouse' to explore characters, setting and the children will develop their descriptive writing and diary writing skills. There will continue to be a focus on learning grammar and punctuation skills, including contractions, pronouns, conjunctions and the use of the possessive apostrophe. This term, spellings will focus on homophones, words ending in -ture and words from the Year 3 / 4 spelling list. In addition, we will continue daily reading, comprehension activities and handwriting practice.

During **Maths** sessions, we will be learning how to subtract three and four digit numbers both mentally and using written methods. We will also learn about angles, shape, symmetry, parallel and perpendicular lines, fractions and multiplication and division problems. Times tables will continue to be a very important part of your child's learning as they are used in so many areas of maths.

In **RE** we will be learning about the Jewish festival of Passover; we will explore Kashrut rules and the Seder meal. We will discuss the importance of special meals eaten during different religious festivals and will compare Christian and Jewish foods.

**Computing** will provide the children with opportunities to design and write their own programs. They will be taught how to use sequence, selection and repetition in programs.

Our **PE** sessions on Mondays and Thursdays will continue to be led by our professional sports coach. The focus will be Tag Rugby this half term. Please ensure children have their full PE kits (all named please) in school every day.

### Home learning for this term is as follows:

-Home-learning folders will continue to be sent home on Friday and are to be handed in on the following Tuesday. Please ensure children complete all home-learning. Weekly homework will include a Maths activity, an English or Topic activity and some spellings. A spelling test will take place on a Monday.

-Children should continue to read on a daily basis at home; it is extremely valuable for children to read a range of texts with parents and carers, sharing and discussing thoughts and ideas.

-Encouraging your child to practise their times tables on a regular basis will help many areas of their mathematical learning. A times tables test will take place on a Friday. Practical activities, such as counting out money at the shops, reading train/bus timetables, telling the time and measuring ingredients when cooking will also help your child develop mathematical skills.

**If you have any questions, concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Year 4 team.  
Many thanks for your support.**

Class teachers: Mrs Sarah Prados and Mrs Julia Oliver      Date: January 2018