

# Year 4 Newsletter : Autumn 1 2021

First of all, welcome to Year 4! We hope that you have all had a wonderful summer break and are ready for an exciting year of learning. We can't wait to get to know you all and get stuck in to some wonderful topics!

Year 4 this year will be taught by myself with support from Mrs Marlow and Miss Carless. Should you have any queries or concerns throughout the year please feel free to phone and make an appointment and we will be happy to assist you.

Autumn is always a busy term and we will keep you informed through the school's weekly newsletter where you will find important news and diary dates.

Thank You, Miss Highfield, Mrs Marlow. Miss Carless and Miss Woolley

Get your snorkels ready and prepare to dive deep under water as our topic this half term is called, 'What's in the depths of our oceans?'

The basis of our geography work will involve learning to name and locate bodies of water that surround the U.K. We will investigate physical coastal features and how these features are formed. Then we will dive into the five main layers of the ocean and the key features of each layer. We will investigate coral reefs of the world and the affect that human actions have on their future, both positively and negatively.

In History work, children will learn about the invention of the submarine and will be able to explain the part that William Bourne and Cornelius Drebbel played in its conception.

Children will learn in art lessons how to apply watercolour paints accurately to create a given effect and will also investigate and then use a full range of graded pencils (HB-6B) in order to create observational tonal drawings of sea creatures.

D&T work lends itself to cooking where we will create a savoury seafood dish.

During science, we will discover how sound is made, how it travels and how different pitches are created- which might get noisy!

## Dates for your diary

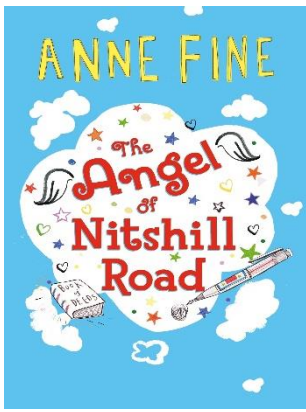
**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October- Break up for half term**  
**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October - Harvest Assembly**  
(details to follow subject to Covid restrictions)



Please remember that there is a requirement that your child wears a white t-shirt, dark bottoms and appropriate footwear for P.E.

P.E kits should be brought in on **Monday** and taken home on Friday to be washed.

All jewellery also needs to be removed prior to the lesson.



## Literacy

This half term, Year 4 will be looking at a book by Anne Fine called 'The Angel at Nitshill Road School'. The children will be exploring each character in the book and how the author portrays them. We will be applying reading skills to infer and retrieve information about the events that happen throughout the book and will make judgments about the main character by using clues from the text. We will be writing character descriptions, letters and towards the end of the topic, we will be writing a different problem which could happen to the characters. Throughout this book, we will also be exploring many PSHE topics as we will be reflecting upon our own behaviour and relationships with others.

## Numeracy

In class we will be securing and extending children's understanding of place value in increasingly large numbers, adding and subtracting larger numbers using correct written methods, understanding and converting time from analogue to digital clocks along with converting time into a 24 hour format and looking at the properties of 2d shapes. Times tables are huge part of Maths in Year 4, so if you could continue to support your child with their times tables up to 12, it would benefit them greatly. It is a requirement that your child completes the set sessions on TimesTable Rockstars (TTRS) per week as part of learning in order to recall multiplication and division facts quickly, ready for their MTC (multiplication tables check) assessment at the end of the year.

## Attendance and Punctuality

The continued message is of course that 'Every Day Matters' - Every day that your child misses is a day of learning lost. Please support us by ensuring that your child attends school every day and is in school ready to start their learning on time. This is particularly crucial after the missed learning that the Covid-19 school closures may have caused.

## Homework

In Year 4, children are expected to develop their independent work skills. This includes reading (approx 20-30 minutes per night) We are trying to encourage a love of reading at County Bridge and would love you to share some of your favorite books, stories, poems etc with your child. Reading books will also be sent home from school & your child will have the opportunity to borrow a free choice book from our school library.

Your child will also have a Reading Journal - We encourage you to write in this book **once a week** when you hear your child read. We would really love to create a dialogue between parents and school.

Individual spellings will also be set home weekly. Your child is expected to learn their spellings by carrying out Look, Cover, Write & Check and then use the spellings in context by writing interesting and varied sentences.

Your child will also receive a Thematic Homework Challenge this week. This piece has been designed to encourage collaborative work between children and their parents. It can be handed in at any point during the half term and should reflect children's learning in school.

After the success of using Purple Mash & Google Classrooms when working from home, we have decided that this is how we will now deliver homework tasks across the school. This will not only engage the children but it will also cut down on items being brought back and forward from school. Homework will be set on a Friday and the deadline for completion will be Wednesday a.m - this way children will be able to speak to their teachers on Monday or Tuesday if there is anything that they don't understand.