

Year 4 Newsletter : Spring 1 2022

First of all, Happy new year! We hope you all had a fantastic Christmas break and are ready to start another term, jam-packed with exciting learning. The Autumn Term really was fantastic and we are so proud of the amazing work the children produced. Let's keep up that hard work this January and really get stuck in to our new topics! Our new thematic topic this term involves your child finding out lots about the continent of Europe. We love this topic and I know that children will find it just as exciting! May we take this opportunity to thank you all for your efforts with homework last term. It was lovely to see so many children doing so well with their spelling, reading and times tables thanks to your support with these at home. If you have any queries or concerns, please don't hesitate to call or make an appointment to see us. Myself, Miss Woolley and Miss Carless are always here to answer your questions. Thank you, Miss Highfield & Miss Woolley.

Our topic this half term is 'What Will We Find on a European Road Trip?'. We will be kicking off our learning by locating Europe on the world map before looking at ways in which we might leave the country by plotting major airports, ports and the Channel Tunnel. Our first stop will be Norway! We will be looking at the landscape type, locating the capital city and identifying key trades. After studying the indigenous Sami people, we will be moving on to explore the spectacular phenomena known as 'The Northern Lights' and learning all about the Norse legends that surround them.

We then move to Russia, exploring its famous landmarks before recreating Saint Basil's Cathedral, the famous Russian landmark using the artistic technique 'Batik'.

After that, we will be looking at France. We will identify and research its capital city and key land marks. We will then look closely at some of Claude Monet's key pieces of art, finding out lots about our class artist.

Finally we will discover Spain. We will be examining the work of the famous architect Gaudi, which will lead us in to creating our own scrapbook style pages based on our findings.

Dates for your diary



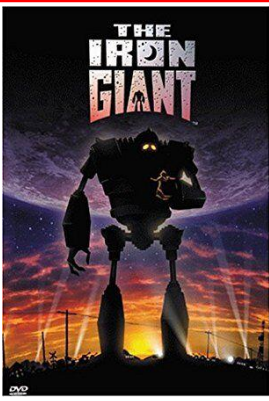
P.E & Swimming

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.

Children will attend swimming every Friday afternoon. Please remember to send the correct swimming attire for children, including a swimming cap.

In Science, children will be exploring the topic 'Animals including humans'. We will be continuing to look closely at the digestive system and the different components it is made up of as well as looking closely at food chains by learning all about producers, predators and prey.



Literacy

In Literacy this half term, we will be studying the book 'Iron Man' by Ted Hughes and the movie 'Iron Giant' directed by Brad Bird.

We will be making links between the story and film and understanding what the director does to create scenes of an imagined world. We will be producing some exciting descriptions of the scenery and characters along with writing a newspaper article around the events of the story.

Numeracy

This half term, Year 4 will be developing their place value skills through problem solving and will be introduced to Roman numerals as well as extending their knowledge of addition and subtraction to add and subtract money. We will be solving problems and explaining logically how we reached our answers. During fraction work, we will be finding equivalent fractions and understanding what they look like in order to recognise fractions of objects. From this, we will sequence, compare and solve problems using fractions. Finally we will be plotting co-ordinates in the first quadrant. This half term, your child must be able to recall all their multiplication tables to 12 x 12 in order to achieve the expected standard. Please make it a priority at home to practise all these multiplication tables daily through the use of Times Table Rockstars. Thank you.

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.

Homework

In Year 4, children are expected to develop some 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 also has 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. Thanks.

Individual spellings will also be sent 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 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.

As you are all now aware, we have decided to use Purple Mash and Google Classroom as a means of setting homework for your children. Please do ask us if you have any trouble logging on, we are happy to assist you. 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.