

# Year 4

# Autumn

# NEWSLETTER

Hello!

What a great first term we have had, we are so proud of how the children have adapted to the new school routines. Just look at how much we have covered since the start of the autumn term. It has been very busy in Lower Key Stage 2 and we're not sure how we've managed to fit so many activities in! Here is a snapshot of what we have been doing in Year 4 for you to enjoy!

In Maths, we have been practising our mental arithmetic skills and have been working very hard to learn our times tables. We really enjoy using Times Tables Rock Stars to improve the speed of our recall. This will help us for the end of Year 4 Times Table Check in the summer term. This will continue to be a major focus for all the children in Year 4. We have all done a lot of work on place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division.

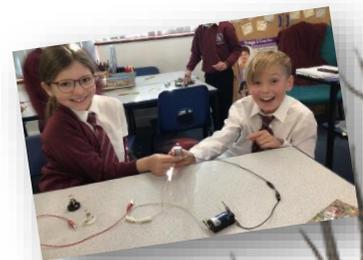


This term, we have loved looking at the book 'Escape from Pompeii' where we have written in a variety of genres such as; setting descriptions, narratives, predictions, comparative writing, persuasive writing and a non-chronological report about Italy and Mount Vesuvius. We have also been reading 'Alba the Hundred Year Old Fish' which was linked to our Planet Protectors topic. The children have used a rich vocabulary, written complex sentences, made predictions, asked questions and written a persuasive letter. We have worked hard with our grammar and spellings, helping the children to further improve their writing. We have looked at many different types of writing styles this term. We have also used our inference skills whilst reading, 'The Ice Bear' which is linked to our Animals including Humans topic. This story is a myth where the children explored the characters in detail.



The children have really embraced our topic 'Planet Protectors'. We have been finding out about how we can look after our World. We have investigated trash islands and how pollution affects our oceans, looked at the 4 main types of pollution and investigated environmental activists such as Sir David Attenborough and Greta Thunberg and what they are trying to achieve. We have thought about how we can do our bit too. We have also studied 'The Romans' and discovered the impact that they had on Britain. This included looking at their achievements, housing and army tactics. The children also learnt about the important figures during this time including Boudicca, Emperor Augustus and Cleopatra.

In Science during the first half term, we had lots of fun with our Animals including Humans topic. We have been learning lots of exciting things about teeth and digestion. The children have enjoyed learning about the world through carrying out scientific investigations. For the second half term we've been looking at Electricity. The children learnt about circuits, mains and battery power. We investigated insulators and conductors, and what components can be included in a circuit. The children loved problem solving whilst using the electrical equipment.



Year 4 are very lucky to have a specialist P.E coach who comes to school every week for their indoor P.E. sessions. The children began developing their fitness skills which involved strength, stamina, speed, agility and power. In the second half term, they improved their fundamental skills such as running, jumping, skipping, hopping, dodging and balancing. In addition to this, in outdoor PE we have been developing our skills in Tag Rugby and Football. PE lessons are great opportunities to learn important life skills such as fair play, perseverance, team work, determination and being able to challenge themselves.



Year 4 have been working hard in their French lessons. They have been looking at the topic 'How I Look' This involves learning about the body parts, describing themselves and facial features. Well done Year 4.....or should that be Tres bien?

In Design Technology, the children have learnt about a variety of fabrics including the difference between natural and chemically processed materials. They have also learnt how to tie a knot and a variety of stitches to create a purse using binca. The children researched, designed and developed sewing skills, then made and evaluated their work.

Since September, Year 4 have enjoyed weekly samba drumming lessons that have been provided by Peterborough Music Hub. They have impressed each other with their musicality, skills and confidence. The children did an amazing performance to the whole school in assembly.

Year 4 were incredibly lucky to have a trip to Peterborough Cathedral. They learnt about the Christmas story and significance of Christmas to Christians, and we created our own nativity stable. We looked at stained glass windows and how they tell stories - the children then made their own stained-glass windows, depicting the nativity story. The children thoroughly enjoyed their day out.



Year 4 children are very proud of our Winter Wonderland land display inspired by the book 'How Winston Delivered Christmas'. They wrote letters to Santa which involved a wish for themselves and one wish for someone else. They designed and created electronic stamps, made a variety of stars using a range of media, made a Christmas tree out of handprints and glitter. They also made beautiful holly garlands.

The children enjoyed having Obie visiting them in the classroom and loved meeting and stroking him. It was wonderful to see so many smiley faces.

Finally, it just remains to say thank you for all your support this term. The staff and children are very glad for all the help we have received. It is very much appreciated. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Have a restful holiday and we will see you again for more adventures in January 2025.

Best Wishes for a very happy holiday from the Year 4 team.

