

Year 4 Newsletter

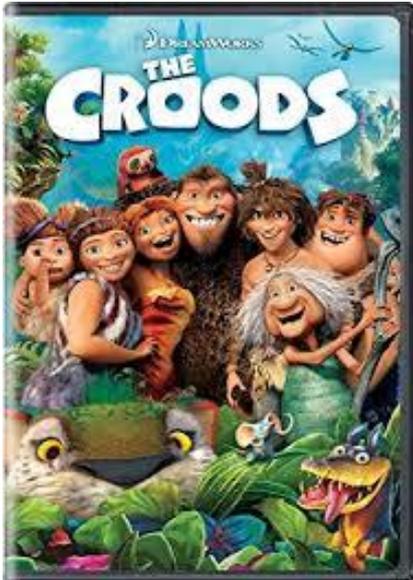
Hello!

What a different 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 Numeracy, 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 of times. This is helping us to get our Bronze, Silver and Gold times tables awards and will continue to be a major focus for all of the children in Year 4. We have all done a lot of work about place value, mental strategies and learning the formal methods for each operation.



This term the children have used the fictional film 'The Croods' to make close links in our Literacy, lessons. They also used a text called Stone Age Boy, as a focus to write letters and diary entries from the character's point of view. The children have been including lots of success criteria to develop their writing, for example by using interesting adjectives and including lots of details. Year 4 children have also had weekly grammar lessons to support their spellings, reading and writing.

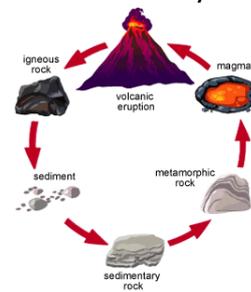


The children have really embraced our topic about Pre-Historic Britain. They have investigated the role of archaeologists, found out what life was like for people living during the Stone Age, drawn and researched animals that lived during this time and also found out about Stonehenge and Skara Brae. Their understanding was enhanced by our school-based Stone Age Day. This was a wonderful finale to our Pre-history topic. We

spent the day on various activities making a leek and mushroom soup, where the children were able to help prepare the ingredients. We made clay jewellery, mixed Stone Age paint using berries and charcoal and then they tried cave painting under the table! What a great day we all had!



In Science we linked our learning about rocks to the Jurassic coastline. The children looked closely at the properties of different rocks, soils and their uses. They examined and made close observational drawings of rocks including flint, granite, limestone and chalk. They also learned all about the Rock Cycle and did some really interesting work about igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks.



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 the year by improving their fitness by completing a number of different fitness activities, football, dodge ball and athletics. Earlier in the term we had a lot of fun in Sports Week with sessions of Aeroball, hockey and fitness training.



Year 4 have been really enjoying weekly French lessons with Madame Turner. They have learned a variety of French vocabulary and conversation through our new LanguageNUT programme. They really enjoy speaking to each other in a different language and take part very enthusiastically every week. Well done Year 4.....or should that be tres bien?

Since September, Year 4 have enjoyed weekly drumming lessons provided by Peterborough Music Hub learning lots about a samba music. Donna our tutor was very impressed with the skills the children demonstrated. Well done Year 4!



Reindeer Day-We had the most wonderful time with our reindeer visitors. We enjoyed finding facts about reindeer, seeing them up close, asking questions about them and making edible reindeer poo. We hope you enjoy eating it!

Finally, it just remains to say thank you for all of your support this term. The staff and children are very glad for all the help we have received. It is very much appreciated. All that remains is to 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 2021.

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

