

Year 4 – Spring Newsletter



**All Souls' Catholic
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Happy New Year to all! I hope everyone enjoyed a great Christmas break. I would like to thank you all for the cards and very generous gifts, they were all very much appreciated. Thank you!

The whole class settled in to Year 4 very well last term and made a really strong start to the school year. We covered many different topics throughout the curriculum last term, some of the highlights being:

- Studying The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe by C.S.Lewis in English – with a visit to the REP theatre
- Investigating which liquids damaged our teeth the most (involving a rather smelly experiment with hard-boiled eggs!)
- Making musical instruments in Design & Technology
- 3D design with Mr Youson in ICT
- Performing the class assembly for Remembrance Day
- Studying the Vikings with Mrs Hands in History

Key information:

The Year 4 timetable will be a busy one again this term. There are a few changes to the timetable that require your attention. Here are the details of these changes as well as a recap of some important things that will remain the same:

P.E. - Swimming – This term Year 4 will go swimming on **Tuesday** afternoons so it is really important that the children have the relevant kit for this every week.

P.E. – Gymnastics – Year 4 will also need an **indoor P.E. kit** on **Mondays** when they will be doing gymnastics with Mr Youson.

Homework – Weekly homework will still be set on **Wednesdays and collected in on Mondays.**

Homework tasks will continue to be an opportunity for Year 4 to practise and embed the skills they are learning at school. Like last term, the tasks will mostly be maths and English based, but will occasionally be on other subjects as well.

Reading – It has been great to see that Year 4 is a class of keen readers. They clearly enjoy reading, both quietly and to the whole class. Developing your child's reading is vital to their education and will continue to benefit them this year. Pupils are still expected to read for around 15 minutes every day outside of school. To help us monitor this, their reading record should be signed and kept up to date. **Reading Records will be checked every Wednesday.** Encouraging a love of reading will make

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these 15 minutes, and more, fly by. Some children will have books from our reading scheme that are chosen specially to take your child's reading to the next level. However, some children may be 'free readers' and can therefore read anything appropriate that interests them. So if they prefer to read the *Sunday Telegraph* or *Financial Times* instead of Roald Dahl or Michael Morpurgo, then by all means encourage this!

Spelling – Every **Friday** Year 4 will be tested on their spelling. Children will be given a list of words to take home and practise.

Summary of key information

<u>Day</u>	<u>Info</u>
Monday	Homework handed in Indoor P.E. kit (gymnastics)
Tuesday	Swimming kit
Wednesday	Homework set Reading record handed in (signed)
Friday	Spelling test

Topics:

English

For the first half of the Spring term we will be reading and studying 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. We will be using the text to learn about writing non-chronological reports and newspaper writing.



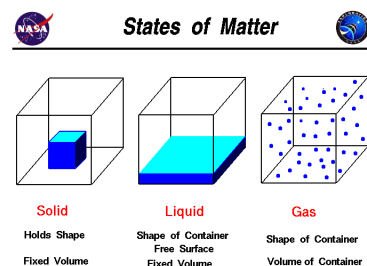
Maths

thousands	hundreds	tens	ones
1 1,000	2 200	4 40	7 7

Year 4 will start by recapping some of the work they did in September on place value and then on addition and subtraction.

Science

The first Science topic of 2016 will be States of Matter. Year 4 will be looking at the differences between solids, liquids and gases, and what processes cause these states to change.



Dates for the diary:

Internet Safety Week – 8th – 12th March

Easter Play – 15th March (afternoon and evening)

Science Week – 14th – 18th March



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Finally, if you are not currently receiving the weekly newsletter from the school via email, then please contact the school office to keep up to date with everything that is happening at All Souls'. Also, please visit our class blog to follow what we are doing in Year 4. This will be updated on a weekly basis and can be found on the school website or at <http://www.allsoulsschool.co.uk/category/year-4-blog/>.

Miss Quinn and I have thoroughly enjoyed teaching Year 4 so far and we are both looking forward to what the rest of the school year holds.

Many thanks,

John Marsh