

Dear Year 4 parents

Welcome back to the second part of our autumn term. We have an exciting new science led topic for the children and rehearsals will soon start for our celebrated annual Christmas carol concert.

Dates for your diary

School reopens : **Tue Nov 3rd.**

Children in Need : **Fri Nov 13th.**

Anti-Bullying Week : **Week beginning Mon Nov 16th.**

Trip to Manchester Art Gallery : **Thu Nov 19th.**

Dress down for chocolate tombola: **Fri Nov 20th.**

Christmas Fair **Fri Dec 4th**

Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day : **Fri Dec 11th.**

Y3/4 Carol Concert : **Mon 14th Dec** 2:15 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

School closes for Christmas holiday: **Fri Dec 18th.**

School reopens: **Tue 5th Jan.**

Mathematics

The children will extend their ability to ability to add and subtract in columns by performing this with 4-digit numbers including with exchanges. Following this, they will be applying their skills to solve written problems using all four operations with number. We encourage children to make good use of our TTRS and NumBots subscription. Little and often is the best approach as we are mindful of the amount of screen time children can rack up! On Fridays, the children will be taught a separate topic on length and perimeter.

Geography

Ahead of next term's topic on the ancient Mayan civilization, the children will be studying the human and physical geography of Central America. Much of this will involve looking at different maps of the region and why the human population is distributed in certain areas. We will also make a link to the tradition of El día de los muertos.

Physical Education

School swimming lessons continue every Tuesday morning until the 8th of December. The children will continue with a weekly outdoor games lesson on Wednesday afternoon until the 16th of December when they will bring their games bag home.

It's Electrifying!



Computing

Children will revisit the LOGO topic from last half-term by programming some floor robots called Probots The next topic, 'unpacking hardware and software', will develop their understanding of computer systems. Finally, we will further develop computing by programming our Microbits. By checking into PurpleMash , you can keep abreast of what your child's been up to.

English

We begin by completing a unit on poetry, and the children will be looking at the usual features associated with this genre such as onomatopoeia , figurative language and rhyme to make the ordinary seem extraordinary. Electricity seems to lend itself to non-fiction writing, specifically explanation texts, so we will be spending a few weeks looking at and writing examples of this. Weekly spellings in yellow books are always accompanied by both EdShed games and a PurpleMash quiz.

Spanish

Children will be learning a 'villancico' or Spanish carol (Los Peces En El Rio) for inclusion in our carol concert. They will learn how to give simple directions in Spanish and learn the names of fruits and vegetables.

Science

It's time for electricity in Year 4. The children will already be aware of electrical appliances in their homes but for this topic we will focus on battery operated devices, specifically simple circuits. The children will build circuits with bulbs and buzzers investigate how varying the power in the circuit affects the brightness of the bulbs. They will test different materials to see if they are insulators or conductors and fit switches into their circuits to control the flow of electricity. Finally, the children will make use of their knowledge to build a switch-controlled traffic light with red, amber and green bulbs. To this end, if you have any traffic light-shaped boxes, for example the ones that festive bottles of whisky might have come in, can we have them!

Personal, Social, Health and Relationship Education

We will be tackling both firework, road and rail safety before looking at the risks associated with the legal drugs medicines, alcohol and nicotine.

Art

The Mexican artist, Enrique Pichardo provides the stimulus for a unit on abstract painting.