

Year 4 Autumn Term 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Autumn term. I am really excited to work with your children this year and learn lots of new things together. Set out below is an overview of the work we shall be doing during the Autumn Term.

The email address for Year Four is: **year4@spinfieldschool.co.uk**

Please use the email address for the following:

- ✓ Arranging an appointment with your child's class teacher
- ✓ Arrangements for volunteering in class (particularly if these are subject to change)
- ✓ Time to Talk/Creative Corner presentations
- ✓ Queries regarding homework or spellings

Please note that information regarding absences must still be communicated via the school office, via a phone message. The above email address will not be monitored daily, so please continue to use home-school books where appropriate to communicate urgent information, such as changes to pick up arrangements. If these arrangements change on the day, please contact the school office.

Subject	1 st half term	2 nd half term
English	Pupils will be studying Aesop's Fables and understanding how authors use different techniques to create characters. Pupils will learn how a Fable is written, which will lead to pupils planning and writing their own fables. Pupils will also have weekly spelling sessions, punctuation and grammar lessons, handwriting lessons and comprehensive sessions where they will read and discuss a range of books. Pupils will also be studying newspaper reports and non-chronological reports in English, specifically in the context of our class History topic of the Roman Empire.	Pupils will read and become familiar with Diary Entries, specifically in the time frame of WW2. They will read, compare and identify the features of a successful diary extract and plan, write and edit their own to tie in with the topic of Remembrance / WW2. Pupils will also be learning about the features of an informal and formal letter, and understand how to construct and write both styles of letter. Pupils will study persuasive texts and compare and contrast different examples of such texts before writing their own.
Maths	Pupils will learn how to use place value, counting forwards and backwards, writing numbers in word form, negative numbers and how to round numbers. They will continue to build on their knowledge of addition and subtraction using 4-digit numbers. They will also learn how to use inverse operations to check their answers. Pupils will also work through Rock Stars Times Tables on a daily basis.	Pupils will further develop their knowledge of multiplication and division using 4-digit numbers, using inverse operations to check their answers. Pupils will focus on measurement, particularly in finding the area of rectilinear shapes. The term will end with a consolidation of all the Autumn term maths topics studied so far, to ensure children are secure and confident in their mathematical knowledge in these areas.
Science	Pupils will learn about the basic parts of the human digestive system and different types of teeth in humans. They will learn about a variety of food chains and will set up and participate in scientific investigations in order to develop their scientific skills.	Pupils will learn about solids, liquids and gases by observing how some materials change state when they are heated or cooled. Pupils will measure and research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius. They will set up and participate in scientific investigations to develop scientific skills.
Computing	Pupils will continue to learn about online safety.	Pupils will use a variety of programs that reinforce the coding skills learnt so far.

	Pupils will learn coding skills which include designing and writing a program that accomplishes a specific goal, working with variables, debug and use repetition and user input.	
Humanities	The Romans Pupils will be learning about the Roman Empire and how it spread, what Roman soldiers wore for battle and the Roman roads.	The Romans Pupils will continue to investigate and learn about Roman life, including Roman food, home life, forms of entertainment and Roman Gods and Goddesses.
Art / Design Technology	Art Pupils will investigate, design and create their own Roman mosaics and will also create a Roman clay lamp.	Design and Technology / Art Pupils will investigate control and lever mechanisms and will end the Christmas term with Christmas Crafts.
PE	Football with AJD Sports Dance Pupils will learn and explore the various elements of Dance, and will create and perform expressive choreography to link to a film.	Football with AJD Sports Gymnastics Pupils will explore balancing, rolling, jumping and travelling. They will work with a partner to create and perform a sequence, using mats and apparatus.
Music/Drama	Pupils will have weekly recorder lessons on a Tuesday with Mrs Lee.	
Religious Education /PSHE	Pupils will learn about rites of passage, marriage and death in Christianity and Islamic religions in order to make comparisons.	Pupils will explore the theme of worship starting with their own experiences and then moving onto Christian and Islamic worship. Pupils will explore and reflect on what Christmas means to Christians and themselves.
French	Pupils will re-cap on their previous knowledge of French. Pupils will learn how to use French to learn how to get to school and learn about where in the world French is spoken.	Pupils will learn about weather, clothing, and numbers from 1-30.
PSHE	<p>Pupils will be working through MindUP lessons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MindUP is science centric and evidence based, grounded in Neuroscience, Positive Psychology, Mindful Awareness and Social & Emotional Learning. • MindUP provides an immersive discovery experience along with daily practices and drives positive behaviour – improves learning and scholastic performance while increasing empathy, optimism and compassion. <p>Please see https://mindup.org/ for more information.</p> <p>We shall also be looking at rights and responsibilities and learning how to get along with one another to avoid and resolve disputes.</p>	

General Organisation:

Absence:

Please ring school on the first day of absence if your child is away. If you have not contacted school by **9.20am** a member of staff will contact you. You are not required to supply a note if you have contacted the school.

Homework:

We value the support of parents in providing the time, encouragement and suitable environment in which children can complete their homework. In setting homework for children, we aim to provide a relevant activity for them to do in which parents may be involved and which can aid their general educational progress. Homework will be set on a Wednesday and will need to be returned to school on a Monday morning.

Homework tasks include: Maths and English

Spelling Test: Thursday

Timetables test: Daily at 1.20pm

Reading books: These will be changed as and when is needed. It is vital that books and reading records are brought into school each day.

Parent volunteers:

Parental support is always appreciated. Please indicate days and times that you are able to help out on the return slip.

DBS checks

Please note that the school requires parent helpers to hold a current DBS certificate and you will need to sign our confidentiality policy. Volunteers are also required to attend safeguarding training (which will need to be refreshed every 3 years). Training dates will be published in our monthly newsletter. If you have not yet filled out the DBS form and the confidentiality policy please collect them from the office. There will be a voluntary contribution in order for us to process the DBS form.

Please ensure that all letters or slips that are returned to school go directly to the class teacher via the book bag; please do not return them through the school office.

Daily organisation:

Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school every day, as well as a snack of fruit or vegetables for the mid-morning break (KS2 only). KS1 children are provided with a fruit or vegetable snack; however they may bring one in from home if this is their preference.

It is imperative that all items of clothing and PE kit are clearly labelled (preferably sewn-on labels). If your child does not have his/her full PE kit (including appropriate socks) they may not be able to take part in the lesson. Please feel free to instruct your child to bring home kit to be laundered as required, however, please ensure that it is in school on PE days.

Timetable Information:

PE lessons are on a **Tuesday** and **Friday** this term. If for any reason your child is unable to take part in a PE or games lesson, please provide a note. **Library books will be changed on a Wednesday.** All library books will be collected in during the penultimate week of term.

Forgotten Items:

Please be aware that if your child forgets something for school, you will only be contacted if it is absolutely necessary, as we are trying to encourage the children's independence. Any calls home will incur a 50 pence charge.

Medicines:

Children must not bring medicines of any kind into school without prior agreement with Miss Spreadbury. A health care form must be completed for any required administration of medication

Holidays:

The staff and governing body appreciate the decision made by parents not to take children out of school during term time. Where exceptional circumstances occur, a leave of absence form can be collected from Miss Spreadbury who will submit your application to the Governing Body for consideration.

School Governor Class link:

In order that the school governors can gain closer links with the pupils and staff, we have attached a governor to each of the classes in the school. He / she will endeavour to make at least one visit to their class during the term and will support the class teacher by working with the children sharing his

/ her expertise in a relevant area or accompanying a school visit. Class governors will be confirmed at a later date.

If you wish to discuss the content of this letter or have any other concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Baxter or Miss Childs to make an appointment to see me.

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss Kershaw and the Year 4 team

Year4@spinfieldschool.co.uk

Please return this acknowledgement.

Year 4 Autumn Term Class Letter

Child's Name _____

Please tick appropriate spaces:

_____ I acknowledge receipt of the Year 4 Term Class Letter.

I am able to help on the following days/times:

Parent Signature