

SPINFIELD SCHOOL

Year 4 Spring Term 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the Spring Term and a Happy New Year to you all!

Please remember that we do have a class email address which can be used for the following:

- ✓ Arranging an appointment with your child's class teacher. Appointments will be conducted by telephone calls or Google Meet at a mutually convenient time.
- ✓ 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, with a phone message. The class email address is generally monitored on a daily basis but please communicate urgent information, such as changes to pick up arrangements to the school office email as well. If these arrangements change on the day, please contact the school office.

This term we are embarking on a topic of Exploration!

To start the topic, our **BIG** question is: "Is Scandinavia *really* the happiest place on earth?"

To finish our topic our end product will be: Viking Shields.

Subject	1 st half term	2 nd half term
English	<p>For the first two weeks of the Spring term, children's English lessons will be spelling, punctuation and grammar focused. Children will re-cap previously taught concepts and engage in new SPAG lessons alongside.</p> <p>Persuasive Texts - Linked to our Geography / Explore topic, children will learn about the features of a persuasive text. They will read, compare and discuss a variety of different persuasive texts and learn a range of writing / language techniques that are included in this style of writing. Children will then plan, draft, edit and write their own persuasive text encouraging people to visit the region of Scandinavia.</p> <p>Information Texts - Tying in with Scandinavia and the history that comes with it, children will write an information text on the famous Viking raid of the holy island of Lindisfarne.</p>	<p>Explanation Texts – Linked to our design and technology topic (electricity - torches) in the first half of the spring term, children will write an explanation text explaining how to make your own torch from scratch.</p> <p>Narrative Writing: Myths and Legends – Children will learn the features of myths and legends as well as specific language features to write a successful myth / legend. They will learn how to develop a character for a narrative piece of writing and how to use paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme. Children will re-cap direct speech rules from the autumn term and then go onto planning, drafting, editing and writing a Viking myth / legend.</p> <p>The Clockwork Crow – Throughout the spring term, children will engage in whole class guided reading of the following book. The final two weeks of the spring term will be a range of English activities linked to 'The Clockwork Crow'.</p>
Maths	<p>Multiplication and Division – Children will re-cap how to multiply 2 and 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers. They will answer reasoning and problem-solving based questions linked to these skills to extend their understanding. They will also re-cap the multiplication of 3 different numbers, e.g. $6 \times 9 \times 7$. After this, children will learn how to divide 2 and 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers. They will then engage in</p>	<p>Decimals – Children will learn the decimal equivalents to the fractions $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, and recognise tenths and hundredths as decimals in a place value grid and on a number line. They will learn to divide 1 and 2-digit numbers by 10 and 100. Following this, children will learn to compare decimal numbers (with up to 2 decimal points) in terms of size and order these accordingly.</p>

	<p>correspondence problems where both multiplication and addition methods are used to reach a given answer, e.g. $2 \times 5 = ? + 9 \times 3 = ?$ Total =?</p> <p>Fractions – Children will re-cap what fractions are (unit and non-unit) and learn about equivalent fractions using diagrams to represent. They will learn to count up and down in tenths and hundredths, and learn about fractions greater than 1. They will add and subtract fractions with the same denominator, subtract fractions from whole amounts and calculate quantities of fractions.</p>	<p>They will then learn how to round decimal numbers (with one decimal place) to the nearest whole number. Following all of this work on decimal numbers, children will learn how to solve simple money problems, however will not engage in a full topic on money until the summer term.</p> <p>The spring term will end with a consolidation of spring term mathematic lessons. Children will get the opportunity to practise, go-over and extend their learning in some of the lessons already taught.</p>
Science	<p>Electricity</p> <p>Children will learn how circuits are powered by batteries and are safe to investigate. They will then set up simple enquiries to test circuits and use buzzers and motors. They will learn about how switches break circuits and make simple switches. They will group materials into insulators and conductors and learn about how a bulb's brightness changes in a circuit.</p>	<p>Sound</p> <p>Children will learn how sound travels in all directions and understand that sound is a result of vibrations. They will learn about how sound travels through solids and that volume is linked to strength of vibrations. Children will learn how good insulation reduces the volume of sound and will make their own pitch instruments.</p>
Computing	<p>Spreadsheets</p> <p>Children will use the program 2Calculate on Purple Mash in class to explore the formula wizard in advanced mode to add formulae and explore formatting cells. They will also experiment with the timer and spin button as well as how to compose a line graph. They will learn how to use a spreadsheet for budgeting and will explore place value with spreadsheets too.</p>	<p>Writing for different audiences</p> <p>Children will explore how font size and style can affect the impact of a text. They will also use a simulated scenario to produce a news report by using the programs 2Connect and 2DIY on Purple Mash. They will use a simulated scenario to write for a community campaign to finish off the spring term.</p>
Humanities	<p>Geography / Explore: Scandinavia</p> <p>In the spring term, children will be immersed in the topic of Scandinavia where they will locate Scandinavian countries and major cities on a world map. They will explore the climate and weather patterns in this region and learn about the physical and human features / geography of Scandinavian countries. They will conclude the first half of the spring term by comparing and contrasting areas in the UK with those in Scandinavia.</p>	<p>Geography / Explore: Scandinavia</p> <p>With their acquired knowledge of Scandinavia, children will plan their own tourist visit to a Scandinavian destination of their choice, considering leisure activities, food, sights of interest, weather, culture etc.</p> <p>Children will also learn about the typical Scandinavian 'hygge lifestyle' and practise elements of this in school as part of P.S.H.E.</p>
	<p>History: Vikings</p> <p>Despite the spring term being predominately focused on Geography, alongside their topic of Scandinavia, children will learn about the struggle of the Vikings up to the time of Edward the Confessor's death in 1066.</p>	
Art/DT	<p>D.T. – Electricity – Torches</p> <p>Children will learn about the various uses and functions of a torch as well as the different types of torches that are made for different purposes.</p> <p>In pairs, they will design a torch (considering appearance and purpose) for a specific customer.</p> <p>They will then conduct a presentation in front of the class in their pairs, where they will demonstrate their torches' functions and how they have met the criteria of the customer. Children will then evaluate their torch against criteria to reflect on what went well and what could be improved.</p>	<p>Scandinavian Art – Tal R</p> <p>Children will learn about Scandinavian artist Tal R. They will discuss and evaluate his style of artwork before creating their own Tal R inspired artwork.</p> <p>D.T. – Viking Shields</p> <p>Children will finish the spring term by designing and making their own Viking shield.</p>

PE	<p>Physical Education – Multi-sports Children will participate in a range of multi-sport activities with AJD Sports Training. This will be every Wednesday for the first half term only.</p> <p>Physical Education – Lacrosse The children's second P.E. lesson of the week will take place on a Friday. They will be engaged in the sport of Lacrosse where they will learn and practise how to pass and receive the ball with accuracy, run with the ball under pressure, possession of the ball, shooting (technique), space / direction / speed, attack, defence, tactics and team games.</p>	<p>Physical Education – Tennis Children will learn and practise: Receiving and returning balls, forehand shot techniques, backhand shots, positions to return a serve, doubles games, and play in a game whilst keeping score.</p> <p>Physical Education – Gymnastics Children will learn how to balance and travel by showing control and tension, one footed balances and rolls, mini tabata, transitions, core, smooth transitions and a series of different jumps with start and finish positions.</p>
Music	<p>Charanga Children will participate in a series of lessons from the Charanga COVID-19 adapted music scheme. These lessons focus on the interrelated dimensions of music such as pulse, rhythm, pitch as well as musical learning.</p>	
RE/PSHE	<p>Religious Education – Pilgrimages. Children will learn what a pilgrimage is and why people choose to go on them. They will explore Christian pilgrimages and where Christian people may go and how they may feel. Children will also learn about the Muslim pilgrimage of The Haj and what people do when partaking on this. Children will use their newly acquired knowledge of pilgrimages to participate in activities around refugees for the International School Award.</p>	<p>Religious Education – Easter Leading up to the religious festival of Easter, children will learn about the crucifixion of Jesus and consider if this was a sacrifice by engaging in six key lessons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How was Joshua sacrificed? - Bearing a burden. - Stepping in. - Lost. - Taking someone's place. - What does Jesus' crucifixion mean to Christians?
	<p>Personal, Social, Health Education. Children will have weekly P.S.H.E slots or full lessons using the MindUP curriculum.</p>	
French	<p>French – On our way to school. Children will learn and practise a range of vocabulary and phrases to describe and a person ask "How do you get to school?"</p>	<p>French – Numbers and Weather Children will re-cap the numbers to 10 and learn the numbers 11-30. They will also learn how to say a variety of weather conditions in French and ask about the weather.</p>

General Organisation:

Absence:

Please ring school every day if your child is absent, unless you have previously notified us of a return date. 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 for the children in which to 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 is outlined below:

Year 4 will be asked to complete their homework, submitting it via Google Classroom or Purple Mash.

Year 4 homework is outlined below:

Spellings: tested on Thursday.

Daily reading: Reading books to be selected by your child on a Monday and must be returned (if finished) on a Thursday.

English or Reading Comprehension
Mathematics

Parent volunteers:

Please note we are currently unable to welcome any parent volunteers into school but this will be under constant review and we will let you know if the situation changes.

DBS checks

When we are able to invite volunteers into school, please note that the school requires all volunteers to hold a current DBS certificate and you will need to sign our confidentiality agreement. 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 agreement, please collect them from the office. There will be a voluntary contribution of £15.00 to cover costs incurred to process the DBS application.

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). Please note, we will not be able to assist your child in peeling, unwrapping, opening their snack.

It is essential that children have a warm coat to wear during the morning break and lunch hour. 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 kit home to be laundered as required, however, please ensure that it is in school on PE days.

Your child will wear their PE kit on the days that they have PE. Please ensure your child has black tracksuit bottoms, either a school PE hoody or school sweatshirt, their PE t-shirt and trainers.

Timetable Information:

PE lessons are on a Wednesday and a Friday. If for any reason your child is unable to take part in a PE or games lesson, please provide a note.

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.

If you wish to discuss the content of this letter or have any other concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Year4@spinfieldschool.co.uk.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Year 4 team