

Year 4 Newsletter



Spring 1

Dear Families,

In the Spring term, our new theme will be 'Compare' where we will be exploring questions such as: Is everywhere as flat as Thetford? Why are there no mountains in Norfolk?

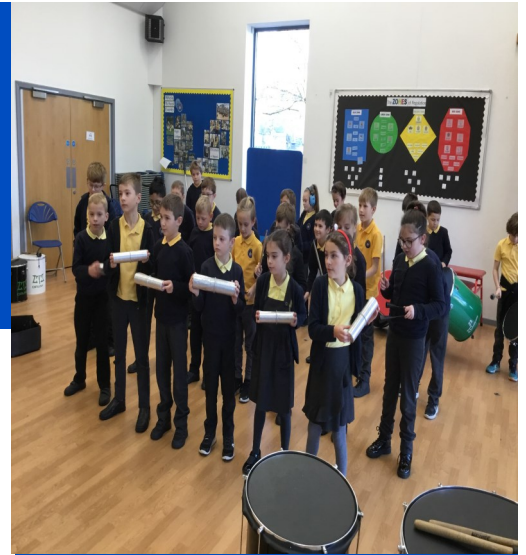
In line with this theme, we will be reading the novel, 'Running on the Roof of the World', written by our focus author Jess Butterworth.

In our geography lessons we will be exploring how mountains form naturally and can change over time due to physical processes, such as erosion and weathering. Physical features include rivers, forests, hills, mountains and cliffs. An aspect of a physical feature might be the type of mountain, such as dome or volcanic, or the type of forest, such as coniferous or broad-leaved.

This term's science focus will continue to be 'States of matter' and we will be exploring how temperature affects different materials. Additionally, we will be adding data to our BioBlitz project from Sophia's garden and comparing this to our Autumn data.

School Value

This half term, our value focus will be aspiration and as such we will set personal goals for the new year. Whilst recognising that we all have different strengths and weaknesses, we will develop our own strengths, learn how to set specific goals and realise that different careers require specific skills. Everyone will be encouraged to dream big and achieve great things. As part of Values Day, the children will be creating their own dream jars and filling them with their aspirations for the remainder of Year 4. Please remember to send your child in with their clean and empty jar, with its lid.



Our Learning

English:

- Talk for Writing text, Sandy Cove.

Maths

- Area
- Length and perimeter
- Fractions
- Multiplication bonds

Art:

- Printing of a mountain range, in the style of Hokusai.

RSHE:

- 'Anti-bullying'. Pupils will look at reactions, self-worth, persistence and resilience.

Computing:

- How to collect data.

RE:

- Sacred texts of the 6 main religions.

French:

- Festivals and dates.

Music:

- Musician in Residence and continue with recorders.

P.E

This term Year 4 will have swimming at the Leisure Centre on Tuesday afternoons starting from January 9th. Please ensure your child comes to school with their swimming bag including: 1 piece swimming costume, swimming hat and towel. Goggles are at your discretion. Every item of clothing needs to be named, including their bag. Spare equipment will not be provided due to hygiene reasons. Children will not be permitted to swim if wearing jewellery

Music

This half term year 4 will continue to have a musician in residence to teach them recorders. Sessions will be every Thursday.

Home Learning

Reading (inc reading diaries): Read at home five times per week. Please record in your Reading Record every time you read / share a book at home. Children who read 7 times will get a star and extra merits.

Sumdog: You need to spend 20 mins on Sumdog maths at home, each week.
www.sumdog.com/en/

Spellings: Spelling Lists are sent home at the beginning of the half term on Parent Hub. Children will be tested on a Friday afternoon.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztyr9j6>

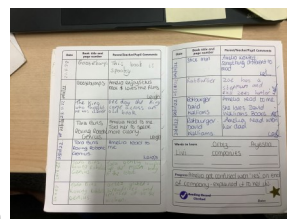
<https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/history/vikings/>

<http://www.timestables.me.uk/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/> (hit the button)

Reading Diaries

Reading is a fundamental part of our school. Children must read every day, this supports learning across the curriculum. The reading diary should be completed every time the children read, starting a new page each week. Star example: Amelia, J, Maathai class.



Important Dates

4th January– return to school

9th January—start of swimming

9th February– Parent meeting about Bawdsey

13th February– Turing class assembly

15th February– Maathai class assembly

A look at our learning so far...

Look at our school website to find out more about some of our learning!

Year 4 learning photos



School radio



Year 4 timetables



School Council

Throughout the Autumn term the school council has been focusing on supporting others in our community and fundraising. We have collected and delivered donations for the local food bank. We then worked hard to plan a fundraising event for Children in Need and raised £1866. In Spring we will be doing a project linked to school values and behaviour.

Behaviour

In school, we earn merits for demonstrating our learning powers, positive behaviours and outstanding effort and achievement.

We can also earn a class marble when we work well as a class to achieve something.

Secret students are picked randomly daily. The class staff will observe the secret student throughout the day. When the secret student has made good choices throughout the day. We share these on our school website.

Year 4 total merits this year: 5248

Year 4 class' total marbles this year: 204

To see the secret students for last half term, visit: <https://www.drake.norfolk.sch.uk/year-4-secret-student/>

Attendance

It is a statutory requirement for children to be in school everyday. Therefore, the attendance expectation attendance at Drake Primary School is 100%.

We look forward to working together to ensure high attendance across the year.

Turing's attendance this year: 96%

Maathai's attendance this year: 96.86%

Pupil voice

"I really liked the samba drumming as I like learning new things."

Jane

"I really enjoyed the sewing as we made Christmas trees." Torin

Safeguarding Notice

We have been made aware of the increase of vaping in children and would like families to be aware of the risks. These risks may also affect children who access vapes left around or found.

School is a non-smoking and non-vaping site. Please ensure that you do not use vapes whilst on school grounds.



Information links

[NHS—Young people and vaping](#)

[Kidshealth—e-cigarettes](#)

The website is a fantastic window into learning at our school. Year 4 information including photos, curriculum and timetables can be found at <https://www.drake.norfolk.sch.uk/year-four/>

If you have any questions about the classroom or any other school related issue, please do not hesitate to email the school office:, we will either email you or arrange a time to call you.

Mrs Farraway & Mr Adair

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