



Year 4 Autumn term

Welcome back! We hope you have had an enjoyable and restful summer and are now ready to begin a new and exciting year at Hollyfield. To help with a smooth transition between Year 3 and 4 we felt it would be helpful to give you some key information.

Homework

Homework is set on Teams every **Tuesday** and needs to be completed by the following **Monday**. Please contact us if you have difficulties with accessing Teams. Login details have been provided for any websites the children may need to use, however, please do get in touch if you have any problems logging in.

The homework will focus on maths basic skills. On occasion, we will also set optional homework which links to other areas of the curriculum.

We will send paper copies of spellings home, but these do not need to be handed in as children will be tested on those spellings during the following week.

Children also need to read regularly, preferably daily. Please see the 'Reading' section for more information

Reading

Reading books will be sent home each **Friday** in your child's reading folder. These are to be returned the following **Wednesday** (please note, we cannot send a new book home until the previous one is returned). The children will have read, discussed and worked on this book in school. If for any reason there is not a physical book to send, a digital copy will be set on the Collins eLibrary and you will be notified. Children will also continue to bring home a book to read for pleasure. Children are to return this on Wednesday along with the Reading Practice book and may change their reading for pleasure book, if they wish.

All children will continue to have access to additional books via the Collins eLibrary and are encouraged to also access Reading Plus to read appropriate texts to develop their fluency, vocabulary and comprehension skills. Please remember to record any reading your child does at home in their reading record. This can include additional reading of their own books or magazines.

Swimming.

Swimming will take place on a Wednesday for class 4B and a Thursday for class 4C. We will be walking to and from Whitehouse Common Primary school for our lessons. Please make sure children bring their swimming kits including swimming hats on these days. Goggles are optional.

P.E. kits

This term in P.E., the children will focus on dance and gymnastic movements and routines. They will need a named indoor P.E. kit (blue shorts, white t-shirt and pumps) every Monday. These will be kept in the locker room and handed back to you each half term to be washed.

Maths

In maths we will be focusing on place value followed by addition and subtraction. We will be placing a strong emphasis on the children's times table knowledge and fluency of basic skills. There is a national expectation that children are fluent in **all** multiplication facts by the end of year 4 (12x12). This is a vital skill which will help them in many other areas of maths. To support the children in achieving this, we will be asking the children to log onto Times Table Rockstars at home regularly. At the end of year 4, children will take part in a National Statutory times table assessment.

English

In English we will be planning and writing in a range of different genres including writing our own non-chronological texts based on volcanoes and retelling the story of Boudicca. We will be writing scripts for greenscreen setting descriptions based on Harry Potter by J. K. Rowling and writing a diary entry inspired by the Bear and the Hare. We will also continue to develop our spelling, grammar and punctuation. Our grammar will focus on fronted adverbials, prepositions, conjunctions, adjectives and adverbs and how to use them in our writing. In addition to this we will be focussing on the author Grahame Baker-Smith and reading a wide range of his books.

Our Wider Curriculum

Science

In science we will start by looking at the unit 'Animals Including Humans'. We will be learning about the human digestive system as well as teeth and their functions. We will then learn about electricity, where we will create and test simple circuits and learn about insulators and conductors.

As an artist your child will:

- Explore texture and pattern.
- Develop a range of mark-making techniques.
- Make and use textured stamps for printing.
- Draw a 'flip' pattern and recreate a famous and ancient geometric pattern.

As a geographer your child will:

- Name the countries and capital cities of modern Europe.
- Understand that countries had different names in the Roman times.
- Know countries land and sea borders and how they have changed.

As a designer your child will:

- Identify electrical products and explain why they are useful.
- Help to make a working switch.
- Identify the features of a torch and how it works.
- Describe what makes a torch successful.
- Create suitable designs that fit the success criteria and their own design criteria.
- Create a functioning torch with a switch according to their design criteria.

As a historian your child will:

- Identify how the Celtic tribes were living before the Roman Invasion.
- Identify countries invaded by the Romans.
- Explain why the Romans invaded Britain.
- Understand what made the Roman army so powerful and successful.
- Identify the Roman buildings and achievement of the Roman civilisation.
- Understand how the Romans changed Britain.

Computing

The children will be learning how to effectively and safely search the internet to find information and how to check that the information they find is reliable.

They will also be creating animations using onion skin and drawing tools in Purple Mash.

Music

Children will learn to sing in time and in tune while following lyrics. They will identify motifs aurally and play a repeated pattern on a tuned instrument.

Children will also combine different versions of a musical motif and perform as a group using musical notation.

R.E. and P.S.H.E.

We will explore the following dispositions and 'values' through our R.E. lessons - expressing joy, being thankful, being reflective and self-critical and being curious and valuing knowledge. We will explore how these values are portrayed through different religious traditions and by those with non-religious views.

During P.S.H.E. they will explore their feelings and how they value differences and relationships.

Vocabulary you can learn at home:

chronology	conquer	settlement	authority	Kingdom
empire	republic	senate	magistrate	BC / AD