



Celebrating this last Half Term

In Autumn 2, we really enjoyed our project which was all about the human digestive system. Across our science lessons we answered the question 'How do we make poo?' The children found it fascinating learning about the science of digestion and impressed us hugely by sharing their learning in different ways. This included a giant poster and an amazing digestive system t-shirt. To support our learning, we had a visit from Dr Riley who specialised in the digestive system. He gave the children so many interesting facts, which they used in their informative explanation texts. Prior to Christmas, Y4TH also finished their 12 swimming lessons at Ponds Forge. All of the children made fantastic progress with their swimming and their behaviour throughout has been impeccable. We are really proud of you all Y4 – Well Done!

How to support your child at home

Please have regular conversations with your child about their days at school. These are very important and help them make the link between home and school.

As we recognise that some children are reluctant to talk, these are some suggested questions to start these conversations:

- What was your favourite thing from today?
- Tell me about the things you've learned/ done.
- What did you eat at lunchtime?
- What's the funniest thing you remember from today?
- What games did you play at break/ lunchtimes?

It's also useful to talk about the week ahead to help your child be better organised and more independent with this. It helps them ask questions about what's coming up.

Useful information

PE days are as follows:

Y4HH – Monday and Thursday (Swimming)

Y4TH – Monday and Wednesday

Y4JH – Monday and Wednesday

Please ensure that your child has an appropriate change of clothing for PE, including a school PE t-shirt and trainers. We will still be trying to get outside for PE if the weather allows so the children may wish to bring a hoodie to wear outside. They will also need to have long hair tied back and all jewellery must be removed.

Snacks for breacktime need to be brought into the classroom and kept in your child's drawer. We would encourage you to provide your child with a healthy snack. Please remember that fresh fruit is available in all classrooms.

Home learning

Home learning will be set each Friday and is expected to be completed by the following Thursday. Homework will be set via the new home learning book.

Other useful home learning tasks include:

- Timestable Rockstar
- Reading – 3 to 4 times a week
- Spelling revision
- Talking to them about Life Skills lessons

Key dates for the year

- **Wednesday 11th & Thursday 12th February** – Parents' Evening
- **Friday 13th February** – Y4 History Van
- **W/b 24th February** - Book Fair
- **Thursday 5th March** - World Book Day
- **Wednesday 18th March** - Class photographs
- **Friday 20th March** – Comic/Sports Relief
- **Friday 27th March** – Y4 Bake Sale
- **Wednesday 25th March** – Y4 Production
- **Tuesday 5th until Friday 8th May** – Edale Residential
- **Thursday 21st May** – Y4 Open Classroom 9 – 9:30am
- **Monday 1st - Friday 12th June** – Y4 Multiplication Check
- **Thursday 4th June** – Sports Day



Half termly curriculum newsletter Y4 Spring 1

Life Skills

In our Life Skills work this half term, we will be focusing on:

How can we help the people around us?

Understand that we have the power and responsibility to make our communities better places to live.

Digital Media - Where do you get your news?

Become more digitally literate by being able to analyse digital content

Verifying content and echo chambers- Who puts information on the internet?

Understand that information online must be checked before it is believed.
Understand some of the motivations behind putting false things online.

Maths

We will be consolidating and deepening our understanding of the following:

- Multiplication and division
- Length and perimeter
- Fractions
- Decimals

We will continue to develop our arithmetic and reasoning skills in flashback maths and basic skills lessons.

Spanish

This half term the children will be learning language associated with the following topic: Presenting Myself

Computing

The children will be learning how to develop data logging skills.

English -

Reading: This half term, we will be reading *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q. Raúf. The children will delve deeply into the characters and develop their understanding of what it means to be a refugee, as well as recognising and discussing bullying. The children will also read non-fiction texts about Romans linked to their History project. They will also read and perform the poetry of Gervais Phinn.

Writing: This half term, the children will write an adventure portal story linked to the Romans, drawing on their History knowledge. They will also create a newspaper article based on their class book, *The Boy at the Back of the Class*.

RE – Islam

How do festivals show what matters to a Muslim?

Science – States of Matter

- Compare and group solids, liquids and gases together
- Observe that some materials change state
- Identify the part played by evaporation and condensation

History - What did the Romans do for me?

In this half term's project, we will be studying the Ancient Roman civilisation, in particular the expansion of their empire. We will focus on life before they invaded Britain whilst considering the pros and cons of potentially doing so. The children will find out all about key Roman emperors, and important figures from the time, such as Queen Boudicca. They will have the chance to develop their historical evaluation skills, examining key evidence from and answering the question 'What did the Romans do for me?'

To consolidate and enrich the children's learning, we will have the History Van come into school to deliver a Roman Workshop on Friday 13th February 2025. More information about this will be provided closer to the date.

Music

In our music lessons, we will be practising our songs for the Y4 performance on Wednesday 25th March.

PE

Game: Football
Skill: Yoga
Hook: Benchball

Art

Drawing and printing Andrinka textiles

- A study of block printing and Adinkra textiles. What are they? What can they look like? How have they changed over time?
- Development of practical skills in: drawing and block painting
- A study of significant printers
- Opportunity to experiment with adinkra textiles to produce own piece.