



Marchwood Junior School

Our Learning Family that Inspires you to Dream

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Spring 2: Year 4 Newsletter



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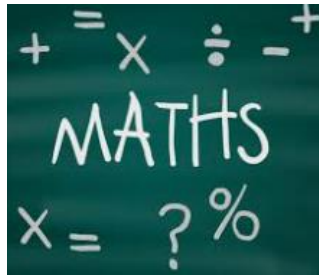
Mrs Ferrero – fferrero@marchwoodjun.co.uk

Welcome to the Spring 2 Year 4 newsletter. In this newsletter, we have shared with you what your child will be learning in Maths and English. Within this we have included some ideas to support your child at home. We have also shared with you information about this half term's topic – Brum Brum. We will be sharing the home learning project with the children this week and look forward to seeing what they produce over the next few weeks.

Diary dates for this half term:

Monday 26 th February	INSET Day
Tuesday 27 th February	Reverend Simon Visiting
Wednesday 28 th February	Parent Forum – Homework and Home-School agreement (4pm)
Friday 8 th March	PTFA Mothers Day shop
Thursday 14 th March	Cuppa and Chat morning
Friday 15 th March	Red Nose Day (Non school uniform)
w/b 18 th March	Assessment week
Thursday 21 st March	Reading Aloud Final
Tuesday 26 th March	Y4 ACE time (2.15pm)
Tues 26 th + Wed 27 th March	Parents Evening
Wednesday 27 th March	PTFA Easter Egg Hunt
Thursday 28 th March	Last day of term

Look out for weekly newsletters and other separate letters for details about the above.



Maths

Our focus this half term in Maths will be on:

- Fractions including working with tenths and hundredths
- Telling the time and using this to answer worded time problems
- Formal methods for addition and subtraction
- Formal methods for division and multiplication
- Symmetry
- To \times and \div a two or three digit number mentally by 10 and 100 explaining what happens to the digits.
- To recall multiplication and division facts for all tables up to 12×12 and apply mentally to solve problems.
- To go over known number facts.

At home it would be helpful if you and your child could....

Practise reading the time. This could be from a variety of different clocks and watches. Encourage discussion about what the time would be in ten minutes time for example.

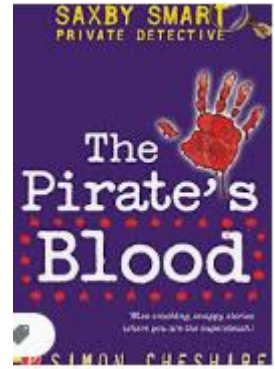
Continue to regularly practise times tables. This can be done either by chanting them, quick fire questions or using any interactive game. This should include revising the times tables that they have already learnt as well as the times table that they are currently focusing on. Times Tables Rockstars is a great app to use on an IPAD or computer.

We will continue to developing our mental strategies and written methods for all four calculations this half term.

English

Writing

This half term we will be looking at a range of different text types such as crime fiction, newspaper reports and story writing. All this will be based on the story “The Pirate’s Blood” in the Saxby Smart series. Whilst enjoying these different texts, the children will practice their writing skills; writing correctly punctuated speech, using expanded noun phrases, starting sentences with fronted adverbials and using apostrophes correctly. On our web-site (just click the learning tab) you can access the Year 4 Grammar Guide for children and parents, it may help your child to talk these different grammar strategies through at home as we are now expecting them to use these confidently in their written work.



Reading

We will be exploring a number of different texts in reading this half term. ‘Anisha, accidental detective’, ‘Emil and the detectives’ and Michael Morpurgo’s ‘Beowulf’ are the fiction books we will be studying, whilst we will also look at a non-fiction text about Anglo-Saxon invasions. Finally we will study ‘Beowulf’ as a piece of poetry.

We have been really pleased to see how many of our children are reading with parents at home and you can see the renewed enthusiasm in their reading so thank you if you are helping us to promote this at home. By the end of this term we would hope that every child has read four of the six ‘Must Read’ books so please keep enjoying these as well. There are copies in each class for your child to borrow.

If you would like to join our team of wonderful volunteers who come in to listen to children read each week then we’d be delighted to hear from you.

Spellings

Your child will continue to bring home a weekly spelling sentence and words in their study log in order to practise spelling rules and patterns. Please spend some time helping them to learn these words each day.

New vocabulary- please find some time to discuss these words with your children at home to support their learning for our new topic ‘Brum, Brum’:

vehicle, axle, wheels, move, movement, design, chassis, vibration, sound, travel, pitch



Topic: Brum Brum (DT)

Our lead subject this half term is **DT**. We will look at various vehicles, design and build our own moving vehicle and evaluate our planning and building. Our efforts will culminate in a Year 4 Marchwood Grand Prix, where we will find out which child's car can drive the furthest. The Race is on! We will also stage a "Car Sales" in school to show off our vehicles and sales poster created in Computing lessons, during our ACE time.

In **Science** lessons, the children will learn about sound, how it is made, how it travels and how we can change the pitch. We will be planning and carrying out an investigation based on sound insulation and will also learn about the different parts of the ear and what they do to help us hear.

In **P.S.H.E** we will be discussing diversity and what makes us all special and different, with a specific focus on British customs and values.

In **RE** this half term we will be looking at 'rituals'. Our focus will be the Paschal Candle and how it is used in a Christian church during the Easter rituals.

In **Computing** we will learn about editing text, adding and formatting text boxes and how to make a poster in Publisher. We will then be using these skills to make posters to promote our cars for our end of unit outcome – the "Car Sales".

We will learn about the Anglo-Saxons in our **History** lessons. We will look at how they became the leading culture in England and how they lived and worked.

Our **Learning Behaviour** for this half term will be *Evaluation*. We will use our lead subject, DT, to learn about the Evaluation wheel. We will transfer our knowledge into other subjects such as English, Science and PE.

We hope the children will have an enjoyable and inspiring half term!

Many thanks for your continued support,
The Year 4 Team.