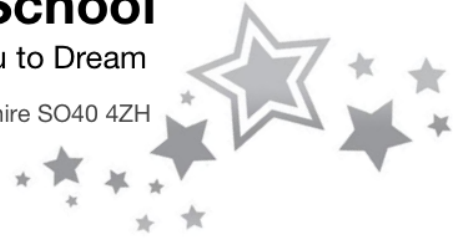




Marchwood Junior School

Our Learning Family that Inspires you to Dream

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Spring 1: Year 4 Newsletter

Sustainability



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Some Important Dates:

Mon 13 th Jan	Y4 Minstead Info Evening (5pm)
Thurs 16 th Jan	SEN Cuppa and Chat (3.30pm)
Wed 29 th Jan	Lorraine Lee Keynote Speaker (6.30pm)
Tues 4 th Feb	Spring reports
Mon 10 th - Wed 12 th Feb	Y4 Minstead Trip / Activity Week
Thurs 13 th Feb	PTFA Disco
Fri 14 th Feb	Love of the Arts Day

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



Maths

Our focus this half term in Maths

will be on

- Fractions: including understanding numerator and denominator in written fractions, pictures including bar models and amounts.
We will add and subtract fractions, work with mixed numbers and find out unitary and non-unitary fractions of amounts.
- Recalling multiplication and division facts for all tables learnt so far, adding the 7 x table.

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

Look at fractions in any way possible: ask to take half / quarter / fifth of an amount of berries, work out $\frac{1}{3}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ of a chocolate bar, draw shapes and colour in $\frac{1}{5}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ or add and subtract simple fractions.

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. We encourage the children to play on 'Times Tables Rockstars' at home. Each child has their own log in for this at the front of their study logs.

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 including poetry and responding to the stunning picture book 'The Wolves of Currumpaw' by William Grill. It is a beautiful book that tells the true story of a pack of wolves in New Mexico. The children will be responding to the thought provoking artwork and narrative in a number of ways aiming to develop their use of precise language to inform, describe and persuade.

If you wish to get your own copy of the book, you won't regret it.

Reading

Some of our reading work this half term will be tied into the topic of wolves so why not look out for books (stories and information books) and articles about wolves so that your child can read as widely as possible around our focus topic.

By the end of this term, we would hope that every child has read four of the six 'Must Read' books so keep enjoying these. Reading regularly is vital for children's development as readers so please aim to read as often as possible with your child.

Please continue to complete your child's reading journal, your child's teacher will check this weekly / fortnightly and if they are not reading enough at home, they may be asked to read during part of their play time.

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; come and speak to us at the gate or drop us an email.

Spellings

Your child will continue to bring home a weekly spelling words in their study logs in order to practise spelling rules and patterns. Please spend some time helping them to learn these words each day. Remember they can use colour, cut out syllables and sing the spelling of the words. Please sign your child's study log to confirm you have practised these at home. In addition, your child will bring in an additional sheet to challenge them with their spellings - they will be awarded 5 WAM if they bring this in completed.

Spelling Shed

Please continue to encourage your child to use the Spelling Shed app, even a small amount regularly during the week makes a massive difference to children's spelling.



Topic vocabulary: Please discuss these words with your child and support their understanding and ability to spell these words:

sustainability, India, renewable, energy, land use, deforestation, solar, impact



Sustainability

Geography is our main area of study in this topic. We will be learning about what sustainability means and how we can be more sustainable globally (deforestation / pollution) but also nationally and as individuals (choice of shopping / energy providers). We will look closely at the country of India and compare it to Britain.

In **Science** we will be helping Mr Llewellyn to decide on the best mops to buy, having conducted an investigation into the permeability of different materials.

In **Art**, during Minstead week, we will be practising our watercolour painting skills using the *Glades* as inspiration.

Computing is based on using Scratch. We will be using Scratch to create via coding a conversation between two characters and then moving on to make a basic game.

In **Music** we will be looking at how we can make our own instruments out of 'junk' and then using them to compose our own pieces of 'stomp' and 'samba' music.

In **PE** we will be practising our cricket skills and developing the techniques used for indoor athletics.

In **PSHE** we will be learning about the difference between harmful and unhelpful drugs, and what effects they can have on our bodies.

During **RE** we will compare the Sikh, Hindu and Christian creation stories.

Our **Learning Behaviour** this half term is Emotional Intelligence.

Many thanks for your support,

Year 4 Team

Mrs Skinner, Mr Southwell and Mr Spiers