

# YEAR 4 Newsletter

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!!

SPRING TERMS 2018

## Diary Dates

25th January—Y4 Assembly  
26th January—House Rugby  
12th-16th February—Half Term  
1st March—World Book Day  
16th March—House Orienteering  
16th March—Reports Out  
20th & 21st March—Parents' Evenings  
29th March—End of Term at 1.30pm



**Our main topic this term will be:**  
**Across the Pond**  
**Below is what we will be studying until Easter:**

**Geography** — We will be looking at the human and physical features of North and Central America. We will be learning about landscapes, climate and similarities and differences between countries. The children will choose one country to study in more depth and after the half term break their home learning will focus on this country.

**English** — We will be starting the term writing recounts and newspaper reports using Little Red Riding Hood as our starting point. We will then spend a week on poetry writing Haiku and Kennings.

After the half term break, we will be using the mini film 'The Catch' (a story from another culture) on which to base our English.

Handwriting, spelling, punctuation and grammar still have a high priority. We are hoping many more children achieve their pen licences.

**Reading** — This remains a key focus and guided reading will take place each week. We will be also be sharing details with you of an exciting reading challenge (details soon).

**Maths** — We will be working on fractions, decimals, time and money.

**Science** — We will be starting with 'Animals in their habitats' and moving on to 'Living things including humans'.

**D.T.** — We will be designing and making a pop-up information book using a range of pop-up mechanisms.

**Computing** — We will continue using 'Scratch' to design our own maths game and also produce a Wikipedia style information page on North America.

**P.E.** — Swimming (see separate letter)

**Games** — We will focus on invasion games and using a range of tactics and ball skills through rugby and football.

**Music** — Before half term we will focus on textures in 'building' themed songs and after half term we will focus on pitch in 'songs from around the world'.

**P.S.C.H.E.** — Our themes will be healthy and safer lifestyles: the world of drugs.

**R.E.** — Children will begin to study the Islamic faith.

**Art** — We will be using a



## Home Learning

*Maths will be set on a Friday and is due back on the following Thursday. Times tables up to 12 x 12 also need to be learnt and will be tested each week. Booklet to be given out in January.*

*As last term, children have been given a booklet with the whole term's spellings. The new list will be discussed on a Monday and the children will be tested on these words the following Monday.*

*Children are given time in class to practise these, but will need to use the home copy to learn them.*

*Children are expected to read at least 4 times a week and they need to make a written comment in their reading logs a minimum of twice a week. These comments can be on the same book. They will be checked each Monday.*

*Until half term, children will be given one piece of English based homework each week on a Friday (due in on the following Thursday).*

*Similar to last term, topic homework will be given out after half term once we are well into our North American topic.*

## Reminder

*Please can all children have their swimming kit on a Wednesday (from Jan 17th) and games kit on a Friday. If all children have a spare carrier bag in their games kit, we can use this to put muddy shoes in at the end of the lesson. As the weather is likely to be colder, tracksuit trousers will be needed.*

Thank you!

Just a note to say a big thank you from all the teachers and teaching assistants for the cards and gifts we were kindly given for Christmas.

We hope you had a lovely holiday and wish you all the best for 2018.

