



Learning, Achieving, Caring and Sharing

# The Winns Primary School

## Learning, Achieving, Caring and Sharing

### Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter

#### Spring 2 - 2022



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#### Key events:

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – World Book Day  
4<sup>th</sup> March – 9<sup>th</sup> March – Book fair in school  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March – RI science shows  
Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March – International Women's Day  
11<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> March – British Science Week  
w/c 14<sup>th</sup> March – Parents' consultation meetings

#### PE

This half term, our units are:



**Gymnastics** - The children will use a range of travelling, jumping and turning movements on different levels and show ways of balancing on different body parts and transferring weight.

**Games/Multi Skills** - The children will learn the various skills needed when playing striking and fielding games.

PE lessons take place twice a week and all children must have their correct PE kit in school. Children can only be excused if they have a letter from home.

#### Design and Technology

The theme for this half term is '**Cooking and Nutrition – Adapting a (biscuit) recipe**'. In this unit, the children will be working in a group to adapt a simple biscuit recipe and make the tastiest biscuit possible, which will be evaluated by a panel of judges. They will learn the skills of creaming, sieving, rubbing and cooling. While making the tastiest biscuit possible, they will also ensure that their creation comes within the given budget of overheads and costs of ingredients.

#### Introduction

To continue the busy Spring Term, we have some more exciting units that the children will be covering. Please read our newsletter to discover the fantastic learning opportunities planned for this half term!

#### The Year 4 teachers are:

Mrs Kelly Brady (Year Group Leader)  
Miss Jennifer Smith  
Miss Rosy O'Donnell  
Miss Emily Bairstow (Trainee teacher in 4KB – away on second placement until Easter)

#### Support Staff:

Caitlin Garner  
Kayda Edwards

The year group email address is:

[year4@winns.waltham.sch.uk](mailto:year4@winns.waltham.sch.uk)

#### Home Learning

**Homework:** Set fortnightly on Fridays and two weeks to complete. Will consist of spellings, grammar, times tables practice (including TT Rockstars) and consolidation of recent maths learning.

**Reading:** We encourage a minimum of 20 minutes reading at home every evening. Entries should be written in Reading Records, which will be collected and checked once a week.



#### Science



This half term, we will continue learning about '**States of Matter**'. In this unit, the children will compare and group materials into solids, liquids and gases. They will observe how materials change state when they are heated and cooled and measure the temperature at which changes take place. The children will understand the processes of evaporation and condensation in the context of the water cycle and make links between the rates of evaporation with the change in temperature.

#### Geography

This half-term, we will be learning about '**Mountains, Volcanoes and Earthquakes**'.

In this unit, the children will learn about: the structure of the earth, fold mountains, how volcanoes are formed and why they erupt and what happens when an earthquake occurs. They will also use volcanic eruption and earthquake case studies from different parts of the world to understand the effects and responses to these natural disasters.

History will be taught again in the Summer term.

#### How to support your children at home

- Read with your child at home as much you can.
- Ask questions about their learning and the books that they are reading.
- Go through homework with them.
- Test them on their spellings and times tables to check fluency.



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#### English

**Reading:** the children will read a variety of carefully selected books and texts to focus on the skills of prediction, vocabulary, retrieval, inference and summarising.

**Writing:** Varied written outcomes, using 'Beowulf' by Michael Morpurgo as a starting point, including recounts, formal letters, dialogue, descriptions, and writing their own epic, heroic narrative using various poetic devices.

#### PSHE

This half term, we will continue to deliver the Botvin 'LifeSkills' programme, which aims to develop children's emotional health and wellbeing and reduce the likeliness that they will participate in dangerous risk-taking behaviours as adolescents or adults. We also continue to have a worry box in each of our classrooms and remind the children to use it if they need to.

#### RE

Our key question this half term is:

#### Why are festivals important to religious communities?

In this unit, the children will make connections between stories, symbols and beliefs with what happens in at least two festivals. They will ask questions and give ideas about what matters most to believers in festivals (e.g. Easter, Eid) and identify similarities and differences in the way festivals are celebrated within and between religions. They will explore and suggest ideas about what is worth celebrating and remembering in religious communities and in their own lives.



#### Maths

This half term, we will be covering the following units:



#### Measurement: Area

The children will be introduced to area for the first time and will learn that area is the amount space is taken up by a 2D shape or surface. Once they understand that area is measured in squares, they use the strategy of counting the number of squares in a shape to measure and compare the areas of rectilinear shapes.

#### Fractions

The children will recap their understanding of unit and non-unit fractions and explain the similarities and differences between them before being introduced to fractions with denominators other than 2, 3 and 4. They will explore tenths, hundredths, equivalent fractions and ordering as well as adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator.

#### Weekly Schedules:

##### PE days:

4KB - Monday and Tuesday  
4JS - Tuesday and Wednesday  
4RO - Wednesday and Thursday

##### Library visits:

4KB – Every Monday  
4JS – Every Tuesday  
4RO – Every Wednesday

#### Final Word / Important Points

- Beginning and end of day arrangements remain the same.
- Please continue to work on times table fluency with your child at home to help prepare them for the MTC.

#### Computing

##### HTML

In this unit, the children will explore the language behind well-known websites, while developing their understanding of how to change the core characteristics of a website using HTML (Hypertext Markup Language) and CSS (Cascading Style Sheets).

#### MFL (French)



#### French weather and the water cycle

This half term, the children will be learning phrases to describe the weather and vocabulary for the compass points. They will combine this knowledge to make statements about what the temperature is in different parts of France and deliver a weather forecast. The unit culminates in a French science lesson, where the children explore the water cycle and recognise scientific cognates.

#### Music

We are very pleased that we've been able to reintroduce our whole-class brass sessions this year. This half term, 4JS will continue their weekly lessons, which will run until the Easter holidays, after which, it will be 4RO's turn.

The classes not participating in brass this half term will either be learning about the language of music through playing the glockenspiel or learning how pulse, rhythm and pitch work together through the song 'Lean on Me' by Bill Withers.