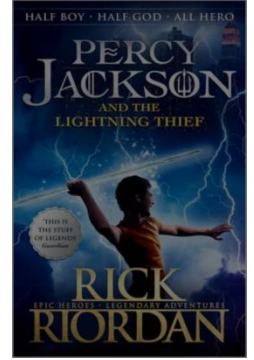


What's happening in Class Four in autumn 2024?



Dear Parents,

We were so excited to see the children last week and they had a great start to the year: learning to play lead; making the birthday cards for the year; writing prayers for the end of the school day; making mask montages in computing and enjoying maths. The children are learning the new routines well and getting used to the pace and expectations which comes with being in Class Four. Over the next year (or two for the year 5s) the children will be getting ready for secondary school. It is our utmost priority that children are able to access the secondary curriculum well, which means working very hard indeed!

The children have been trained in play-leading and they will start tomorrow. I was impressed with their evaluations and questions last week. I am sure that they will be excellent in ensuring that all the children have a wonderful time during lunchtimes.

In English lessons, we are going to read the book, *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* as our class novel. We will start the year reading and performing poetry, based on schools, children and teachers. This will improve reading skills as well as comprehension and performance. Our theme for the next few weeks in English is masks. We will be researching why people wear masks and the different types there are and from that write poems, non-chronological reports and narratives. In spelling, we will be finding out how well the children spell the statutory spelling words and basing their weekly words from what they know. We will also be revising year 3 patterns (such as ture/sure, y makes i sound) during English lessons.

Spelling

The children also have 10 spellings weekly. These are the statutory spelling words. The children will have a spelling test once a week and the expectation is that they achieve 10/10, as they practise each day at school and should also do so at home! If there are gaps from the Year 3/4 spelling words, the children will do these first and once they're mastered, they will move to the Year 5/6 list.

In maths, we will be covering;

- Reading, writing and place value of numbers to hundreds of thousands (year 5) and 10 million (Year 6),
- Adding and subtracting multiples of 10, 100 and 1000 to large numbers,
- Using formal methods for addition and subtraction (all four operations for Year 6),
- Mental skills methods for addition and subtraction
- Daily times tables

All of these will include problem solving in each area.

Times Tables

It is imperative that children are able to quickly recall times tables and related division facts to 12x12, which is the end of year 4 expectation. Children should be able to recall the fact in 3 seconds to be able to pass their SATs at the end of year 6. Please ensure that you are supporting your child by practising times tables at home. Little and often works the best.

For this term in science, the children are learning about materials. They will know vocabulary such as rigid, flexible, permeable, impermeable and durable and build on their knowledge of properties of materials from Year 2. They will complete a range of investigations, such as testing insulation and absorption.

Class Four pupils will be continuing to develop their fitness through fitness sessions as well as learning basketball and netball skills. **P.E. kit is to be worn to school every Monday and Wednesday.** Please make sure that correct P.E. kit is worn on these days.

Music lessons this half term will be learning to play the recorder. Please send your child in with their recorder if they have one, if not, we have a set at school, which are sterilised after each use. Music lessons are on Tuesday afternoon with Mrs FP.

In D.T. lessons, the children will be developing their food tech skills. We are going to be making a savoury dish each week, starting on Tuesday 30th September. To help with ingredients, we would like to ask you for a donation of £5 to cover the ingredients, payable on schoolmoney. By the end of the unit, your child should be able to make 6 different dishes for you at home!

In art lessons we will be making masquerade masks, which will be paraded to the school later this half term.

In computing, the children will be developing their digital literacy skills in Word and PowerPoint: wrapping text, inserting hyperlinks, manipulating images and inserting borders. Lots of this work will be linked to our residential.

PSHE lessons will be centred around the Zones of Regulation, learning to recognise our emotional state and regulating ourselves so that we are calm, focused and at optimal learning level. We will also be building our school community and exploring how we are kind and caring. The children will be learning how to develop a Growth Mindset and how this is important for learning. We will also be looking at PSHE through the theme of masks – how we behave in different situations. In autumn 1, the Year 6 children will also have lessons on the changes during puberty with Mrs FP.

Mr Hill will teach Class Four on Thursday from 11am. He is teaching History, English (reading comprehension and writing) and French. This term in History, the children will be learning about the Aztecs.

The children are very excited about going to Danbury in a few week's time. Lots of work the week afterwards will be centred around what we did there, culminating in a class assembly on Friday 4th October at 9am.

What can you do?

Class Dojo is our primary means of communication. I post information regularly, so please make sure you log in frequently. You can also message me through Class Dojo.

- **The single biggest difference your child can make to their learning is daily reading at home, ideally with a chat about what they have read afterwards, including discussing meanings of words.**
- Have your child practise their spelling words daily, 10 minutes is enough time. Make sure your child knows the meaning of the word and can put it into a sentence. There is no point in learning to spell words that they do not know the meanings of!
- Ask your child times table and related division facts to improve recall.
- Ensure your child completes their homework and help them if necessary. Homework goes out on Wednesday and is to be returned the following Monday.

If you have any queries or want to come in and discuss any aspect of your child's education, Mrs Horsley and I are available to meet you after school or speak to you on the phone. We are more than happy to meet with you! ☺

Mrs Horsley and Mrs Fitzpatrick

