



West Hill Primary School
(a partner in the SMILE Learning Trust)
Beech Park, West Hill, Ottery St Mary, Devon EX11 1UQ
01404 812599
admin@west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk
Headteacher: Cheryl Boulton



SPRING TERM 2018 CLASS 4 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year. The spring term is already underway and many exciting curriculum topics and extra activities have been organised. Mrs Bedford will continue to teach PE, RE and Music on Wednesday mornings and Mrs Shackleton will teach a French session on alternate Mondays.

English: We shall be looking at a variety of texts this term. This will include fables, myths and legends, whole texts and information texts linked to our topics. The children will learn to develop their reading and writing skills and their use of language and punctuation to become better writers. There will be weekly grammar and reading comprehension lessons and weekly spellings for the children to learn.

Reader helpers: A big thank you to our volunteer reader helpers who play a huge role in helping the children to develop their reading skills and understanding of texts. It is vital that all children read at home every day too.

Maths: The focus this term will include number and place value up to 10 000, the four operations, properties of shape, fractions, measurement (length, perimeter and area), statistics and decimals. There will be more emphasis on developing a 'greater depth' of understanding and working in a more systematic and organised way when recording methods and written calculations.

Science: The children will learn to recognise and understand the properties of 'States of Matter'. They will carry out investigations and experiments, comparing and grouping materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases.

The children will observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens. They will research and learn to identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and learn to associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.

PE: During the first half of the term the children will learn the skills needed to develop flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance in gymnastics, comparing their performances with previous ones and demonstrate improvement to achieve their personal best. In striking and fielding games they will use running, jumping,



throwing and catching in isolation and in combination to play competitive games, including Ultimate Frisbee, basketball, netball, football and rugby, and apply basic principles suitable for attacking and defending. After half term, we will have our second unit of dance with Miss Murray.

Geography: The children will continue to learn about the geographical aspects of Mexico. This will include investigating the human and physical geography and developing skills in using atlases and maps to locate and describe features while making comparisons with the UK.

History: After half term we will move on to our second topic, 'The Romans'. The children will learn out about Roman daily life, culture and religion, belief in the gods, customs and the growth of the Roman Empire.

Art: The children will be exploring the 20th Century life and works of Barbara Hepworth, Paul Klee, Bridget Riley and Robert Delaunay, creating pieces with a more abstract theme, including sculptures with parabolic curves and drawings and sketches using a variety of media.

Computing: Computing will be embedded across the curriculum as well as more focused units of work including 'Scratch' to develop skills in programming and coding.

RE: Work in this unit will enable the children to explore aspects of, Christianity and Islam and to discover what is expected of a person who follows a religion. Important questions around 'faith' will provide the children with opportunities to relate this concept to their own lives and people in the local community.

'Wildlife Champions 2018': Class 4 will continue their work with the Devon Wildlife Trust in order to make a difference in supporting British wildlife. Our chosen challenge is the plight of trees and we look forward to our workshops with Mr Martin from the Devon Wildlife Trust on Monday 29th January. You will be kept up to date with developments in this project.

If you have any questions or queries then please come and ask. Also, if you have any resources/artefacts which you think may be useful to any of our topics and would like to share them with the class then please let me know.

Thank you for your continued support,

Miss A Kemp