



**West Hill Primary School**  
(a partner in the SMILE Learning Trust)  
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**Headteacher: Cheryl Boulton**



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## **CLASS 4 SPRING TERM CURRICULUM LETTER**

Dear Parents,

We 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.

**English:** We shall be looking at a variety of texts this term. This will include fables, myths and legends (including myths and legends from Devon folklore) 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. Mr Pantling will be teaching fiction writing Monday-Wednesday, while non-fiction writing will be taught by Miss Spence on Thursday and Friday.

*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 (including angles), 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.

We will also be studying living things and their habitats – grouping, classifying and describing organisms and their changing environments.

**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 net and wall



games they will use serving and hitting skills to build up techniques needed for tennis. After half term, we will have our second unit of dance with Miss Murray.

**Geography:** The children will learn about the geographical aspects of the Roman Empire and how invaders and settlers changed Great Britain. 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:** We are also starting our second History 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 Roman art including mosaic and sculpture.

**Computing:** Computing will be embedded across the curriculum as well as more focused units of work including using 'Lightbot' to develop skills in problem-solving, 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. We will also look at Roman gods and beliefs.

**Music:** Class 4 will be exploring melodies and scales and continuing to use a range of instruments, including the ukulele.

**'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 hedgehogs and we look forward to our workshops with Mr Martin from the Devon Wildlife Trust later in the term. 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,

Mr R Pantling and Miss A Spence