

St Philip's Primary School

Year 4 Curriculum Letter Spring 2014

Hello!

Dear Parents,

Happy 2014!

With the new year well underway, it is time to update you on plans for the term ahead and I imagine it will be a busy one! As always, I want to take the opportunity to say that I am always available to discuss any concerns that you have – please do just come and find me at the end of the day or phone the office anytime to request an appointment.

David Hirst

Curriculum Outline

Just so that you can get ahead in knowing the difficult questions you are likely to be asked! If there are areas we are studying that you feel you could help out with, please do get in touch.

Literacy -

A main focus for most of the children continues to be reliable and consistent use of punctuation to allow their written work to be easily followed. Spellings for the term will either come from the high frequency word lists with the phonics programme or from a collected list of words commonly misspelt by primary school children. A variety of text types will be studied, including poetry, explanation, stories with historical settings and persuasion.

Maths

We follow a spiral curriculum and so each term will cover the key areas of calculation, measure, shape and data handling. This term, some children will continue to need to focus on learning their times tables and we will be applying this knowledge in more timed tests than we did last term so the children get used to a test style used in end of year assessments.

Science

Key topics this term are 'Friction' and 'Habitats'.

ICT

ICT this term is linked to our Science topics and we will be using ICT to collect and present information gathered in investigations and to create branching databases. Discussion of E-safety issues will be ongoing as the children use technology.

History / Geography –

Mainly history this term, and we will make a detailed investigation of life in Ancient Egypt. We are planning to include a trip to Liverpool Museum to examine some Egyptian artefacts first hand!. (March 28th is the date to keep in mind but I will write nearer the time.)

Art/DT

Through the term we will be looking at art as the Egyptians used it - to tell stories and record facts. We will also be developing DT modelling skills as we create creatures and habitats linked to our science topic.

RE

Our units this term will explore the idea of authority and investigate Jesus' claims to authority. We will also look at how faith is expressed through behaviour in a unit called 'Living the Faith'.

PHSCE

Topics are 'Going for Goals' and 'Good to be me'.

PE

Outside this term we will be playing netball and football. Inside PE will involve dance and gymnastics.

Dates for the Diary

12th February – Valentine's Disco
10th & 12th February – Parents' Evenings
18th – 22nd February – Half Term
28th March – Y4 Trip to Liverpool
4th April – End of Term

Homework

As last term, homework for the week will be set on Mondays and will usually involve a list of spellings to learn and write sentences with and a maths activity to complete. Occasionally the sentence writing will be replaced by a topic related task or piece of research. Children need to plan their work over the week so that it can be handed in on Friday. Reading remains an important focus and any encouragement you can give your child to read regularly at home would be appreciated.