**SCIENCE**

Year 4 will be looking at electricity in the first half term. We will look at how we use electricity and how it gets into our homes. We will learn how to use it safely and research more environmentally friendly forms of energy. The children will construct circuits and test materials to see if they are conductors or insulators.

In the second half term we will be finding out all about sound. We will look at pitch and tone and how sound travels. We will also look at how sound travels into the ear and how we 'hear'. The children will test materials to find the best insulator for making an air raid shelter. Using recyclable materials, the children will make musical instruments— instruments that can be tapped, shaken or plucked to make sounds. Children will have an opportunity to research famous scientists and events linked to these topics.

**Reminders**

- PE is on Thursdays.
- Homework is given out on Fridays (returned by following Wednesday please).
- Spellings given out on Thursdays (fortnightly) and tested the following Friday.
- Home readers can be changed at any point during the week.
- Water bottles can be purchased from the school office; children need a water bottle daily.

Please ensure all uniform and P.E kits are labelled clearly with your child’s name.

Thank you

**Creative Curriculum Homework Project**

Over the term, we would like to encourage children to complete a topic based homework project. This will be presented and/or displayed around the school.

For Year 4, we would like you to select one of the following projects to complete at home. We will be sharing our project work during the week commencing November 4th 2019.

- Make a shoe box suitcase. Imagine you were going to be evacuated, what would you put in the case? Add objects, photos or drawings. When you bring it into school you can share your suitcase with the class.
- Research an aspect of war time, such as ‘The Home Guard’ or The Land Army. Produce a leaflet or poster to display your research.
- Family research project—Did any members of your family participate in the war effort or were evacuated?

**Spelling**

Know your spelling patterns

We will be introducing new spelling patterns to the children and revising patterns that have already been taught.

We will keep a weekly check on the children’s use of the taught patterns in their writing across the curriculum and through fortnightly tests.

Children must learn the ‘Hot’ and ‘Year Group’ words from the lists sent home. Children can also challenge themselves by learning to spell words from the ‘Hotter’ and ‘Hottest’ lists.

A results sheet will be sent out to you so you can keep track of your child’s progress.

**Year Four Team**
This term, Year 4 will be delving into World War 2 and finding out about what life was like in Britain during this time. We will research who was involved and look at a timeline of major events that influenced the war. The children will also find out the part Birmingham had to play in the war within local studies.

We are currently organising a WW2 themed school trip. More detailed letters about this will be sent out to you very shortly.

Linked to science, children will be making torches to use when camping. We will use switches in electrical circuits to use Morse code to communicate messages.

In Art, children will be using the poppy as a basis to create pictures. We will also look at mixing paints to create sky scenes and then adding collaged Blitz silhouettes.

Year 4 have the exciting opportunity to learn to play the ukulele. Music lessons will be on Wednesdays and children will be given the opportunity to bring their instrument home to practise!

In writing we will be using a range of fiction set in WW2 as a basis for our narrative. We will also use these texts as a starting block for writing autobiographical evacuee stories and diary entries linked to living through the Blitz.

The children will read and recite World War poetry.

We will be writing newspaper reports about a local wartime incident. The children will be using drama to further explore what it was like to be an evacuee.

All of our writing tasks will focus on developing spelling, grammar and handwriting.

This term, we will focus on embedding basic number skills including place value and the four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will use these operations to solve one and two step problems.

The children will interpret and present discrete and continuous data using appropriate graphical methods.

We will also look at the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and classify shapes according to their properties.

Children will continue to develop their recall of multiplication facts through times table rock stars. By the end of Year 4 children should be able to recall multiplication facts up to 12x12.