Welcome back. We hope that you have had a wonderful Christmas break and are looking forward to a successful 2020!

Happy New Year!

**Year 4 Newsletter**

Volume 1, Issue 3

January 2020

**English**

This half term, we will be basing our writing around 'Leon and the Place Between'. We will be revealing the book section by section to add to the excitement of the story. We will then spend time writing and performing our own poems, as well as planning and writing our own stories.

The pupils will continue to read a selection of texts in their daily guided reading sessions. Ms White will continue to look out for pupils who are demonstrating excellent handwriting across the subjects as she is keen to give out more pen licences this term.

We will continue to complete regular comprehension tasks making links to spellings. New words will continue to be given out on Friday, then tested the following Friday.

**Maths**

In Maths we shall be starting with addition and subtraction looking specifically at word problems involving decimals including money and measures. We will then move on to fractions and decimals and then area and perimeter Each week we will continue to focus on mental maths strategies too. Any additional support you are able to give at home e.g. times tables, number bonds, telling the time etc. would greatly assist your child’s work in school.

---

**Things to Remember:**

- PE kits in school every day please.
- Please sign reading records and complete homework. Thank you.
- Please label all items—lunchboxes, PE kits, water bottle, uniform etc.
- Come along to Awards Assembly every Friday at 9am.
**Integrated Curriculum**

Our Integrated Curriculum unit this half term is **Fantastic plants and where to find them.**

We will begin our topic with our inspiration day the 10th January.

The children will begin the unit looking at how climate and location affects plant diversity, they will also study how chocolate is made and where the raw product comes from. They will also look at the international trade in cocoa beans and how the price we pay can be affected by harvest. We will also look at bamboo and explain why bamboo can solve the modern problems surrounding plastic disposal and hardwood cost and availability.

Within **Design and Technology**, the pupils will be researching, designing and creating their own light box linking their ideas to our work about electricity in Science.

In **Science** the children will be looking at Electricity and how to create working circuits.

The focus for **French** will be describing people.

In **Computing** we will focus on developing word processing skills using Microsoft Word and Microsoft Publisher.

In **R.E.** we will be looking at Judaism including a visit to a Birmingham synagogue.

**PE** this half term we will focus on Athletics and Tennis

---

**Additional Information**

Please can we remind parents/carers that it is important to monitor your child’s reading and homework at home. Please sign any homework that is completed and ensure that pupils write three quality comments in their reading diary each week to build up their smiley faces in order to achieve their merits.

Homework continues to be given out on a Friday (Spellings, English, Maths) and should be returned by the following Wednesday.

We really appreciate your support and it will make all the difference to your child’s progress.

We hope that this will be a successful half term for everyone. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. Best wishes from the year 4 staff: Ms White, Mr Murray, Miss Bailey, Mr Stonehall, Mr Kuriger, Mrs L Jones and Mrs S James.