

## Curriculum Newsletter – Autumn Term 1<sup>st</sup> Half 2018



Welcome to Year 4 and our new classrooms 'upstairs'. We hope you had a lovely holiday and are looking forward to the new school year. The Year 4 team would like to introduce our new member – Miss Puja Nair. Miss Nair will be the teacher for Ghana class - leading on Maths and Science. As always, we expect behaviour for learning to be exemplary – at every juncture we will be encouraging children to make wise choices to get the maximum out of their school day here at Atwood. Mr Constant and Mr Thomas will be supporting the Year 4 teachers. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask the Year 4 Team.

### Achieving Success

#### Mathematics

Pupils will continue to work with 4-digit integers throughout Year 4 and to calculate with them in a variety of contexts. Their understanding of integer place value will provide a firm foundation to support their understanding of place value when decimal fractions are introduced later in the year. There will be a focus on reasoning and problem solving, with pupils deepening their conceptual understanding of place value in numbers of up to 4 digits, including rounding to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000.

#### Science – Physics

In this Sound and Energy unity there are 3 key scientific skills that are explored through the year- planning, data and analysis, and evaluation. We will identify how sounds are made, how vibrations travel through media and the relationships between pitch, volume, distance and speed.

#### PSHE –looking after each other.

We are continuing to use the skills we have learnt in earlier years to try and resolve conflicts ourselves where we can. Each classroom has a Peach Table where students are able to chat about anything that might have happened in the playground or around the school. There are set questions and discussion starters supplied to help students understand different points of view and how to resolve tricky situations.

#### Literacy

This half term in Literacy we shall be focusing on information gathering, and producing an information text. We will be learning about endangered animals, and using lots of new vocabulary. We will be using various forms of research to gather our information, and then focus our main findings into a leaflet. We will then be focusing on extending our ideas using a range of conjunctions.

#### Art/D&T

Weekly Art lessons will be held with Mr Boden. We will be creating our own logos and printing them onto Tie-Dye T-Shirts. This is linked to our Literacy Topic all about Endangered Animals.

#### Physical Education

The children in P.E this half term will be learning to utilise changes of direction, speed & level during performances/competition to succeed. In addition, selecting and utilising appropriate tactics and techniques to cause problems for opponents.

#### Music & Creative Art

Students will be delving into the art of playing the Djembe drums in the music program. The creative arts will be taken by Miss Rebecca this term, and the students will be introduced to movement and dance in line with the topics we are studying in literacy and topic sessions.

#### Class Book

In year 4 we want to introduce the children to reading literature that they may find difficult to access on their own, this will be done through the class book. We have a selection of books by fantastic children's authors that will be read and discussed with the class teacher daily. Children will complete activities linked to the chosen book to help them to develop inference and comprehension skills, vocabulary and love of stories!

**Other Useful Information** Every **Wednesday** pupils will have Creative dance lessons with Miss Rebecca. P.E will occur on **Thursday** (with Mr Constant) for both classes. Children will need to be in their P.E kits for **Thursday only**. **Homework** As per ARK Atwood's homework policy, there is no formal set homework. Students will be set homework for larger projects (termly), and in some cases bespoke work may be set to assist learning. Remember the ARK Atwood day is longer than a usual school day to achieve more learning. However, reading with, and listening to your child read is a great way to assist them. Daily timetables practise is imperative so that children can achieve fluency and mastery up to the 12 times table.

**Aspiration & Achievement – Scholarship – Perseverance – Integrity – Respect & Responsibility – Enthusiasm**