

# CHRISTCHURCH JUNIOR SCHOOL

## YEAR 4 AUTUMN TERM 2021

### WELCOME BACK

We are delighted with how well your children have settled back into a new school year. It is wonderful to finally seat the children in groups rather than rows and return to some normality. We are also mindful that our Year 4 children will not have ventured onto the playground with the whole school before and that lunchtimes will now be in the hall, so we are keeping a close eye and ensuring that the new systems are not too daunting for them. In order to make their learning proceed as smoothly as possible, please ensure that PE kits and trainers are worn on PE and Gym days.

### ENGLISH

- Fiction writing – we will read, analyse and write a fable in the style of Aesop; write in role as characters in stories; and create poetry.
- Non-fiction writing – this term we will focus on researching and writing an interview linked to our History learning.

### MATHEMATICS

Year 4 will follow the Maths No Problem curriculum. Pupils will develop their fluency (quick and efficient recall of number facts and times tables), calculation strategies alongside reasoning and problem solving.

It would be helpful if children were encouraged to apply their maths at home, e.g. telling the time and working out timetables, increasing familiarity with money, measuring amounts for baking, etc. It is also important to keep practising times tables and associated division facts.

### COMPUTING

This term, children will learn about e-safety where they will develop their word processing skills using Word and Publisher. They will also use an Art programme to investigate and create various effects.

### SCIENCE

We will begin this year with the Science topic of 'Living things and their habitats' where we will consider food chains, food webs and classification. We will then move onto 'Animals' including humans, where we will think about the skeleton and muscles.

### SPANISH and FRENCH

We are very lucky to have our Modern Foreign Languages taught by a specialist teacher from Twynham School. Spanish will be taught in 4CC and 4VD and French will be taught in 4PG and 4SF. Teachers will also incorporate the language in their classrooms.

### TOPIC

We will begin our topic work with The Romans. We will look at how the Romans lived and their influence on the world, especially their lasting legacies in England.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In the first half of this term, we will study Judaism, focusing on the relationship Jews have with God. After half term, we will study Christianity, focusing on the Nativity Story.

### MUSIC

This term we will be learning and listening to music by Dave Brubeck to perform and improvise rhythm patterns. We will be listening to programmatic music on water by the composers Handel and Smetna and will create our own graphic scores.

### ART AND DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

We will be linking our Art and DT to our topics, as far as possible this year, as we create a range of artwork including Roman mosaics. We will be also develop our paper engineering skills, creating a 3D Snowflake at Christmas.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND GAMES

Miss Binney will teach our gymnastic and dance lessons. Outdoor games lessons will take place weekly. Please ensure that children come into school on PE and Games day wearing the PE kits and trainers.

Our Games days are:

4PG —Tuesday

4CC& 4VD—Thursday

4SF—Friday

PE (gym) is on:

4CC—Tuesday

4PG & 4VD—Wednesday

4SF - Thursday

Shoulder length hair should be tied back (boys and girls) and all jewellery removed. Newly pierced ears must be covered with tape supplied from home.

## PSHE

This term we will be continuing to follow the Jigsaw unit “Being Me in my World.” We will be thinking about how we belong in our school and how we can make our class a special place.

## HOME LEARNING

In order to consolidate the children’s learning, home learning tasks will be set each week.

The timetable for these tasks is as follows:

- Weekly spelling list handed out each week with words for children to learn. These lists will be set at an appropriate level for your child and we will have a spelling test every Friday morning. We will also be encouraging your child to use these spellings in their writing so that they can see the purpose behind learning new words.
- Children are set weekly tasks on Reading Plus which they are expected to complete and should aim for 85%+ accuracy. These reading activities will help them both with their reading fluency and their understanding of what they read.
- In addition, every child should read regularly at home – they should aim for an average of around 20 minutes at least 4 times per week. It would also benefit your child greatly if, when they read aloud at home, they were encouraged to discuss the language, characters and plot lines. Encourage your child to read a balance of fiction and non-fiction. Daily reading really does make a huge difference!
- Children may be given an extended task or project to complete at home.
- Please support your child in learning their multiplication and division facts as they will need to know up to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4. They will also be encouraged to gain their multiplication and division badges. To help with this, we ask children to practise their times tables online in addition to practising with an adult at home . Each child should try to access TimesTables Rockstars at least 3 or 4 times a week.
- At the end of each Maths unit, a review sheet will be sent home. Please take the time to go through this with your child and let them explain to you what they have been learning wherever possible.

## TRIPS AND VISITS

Last year, we were unable to take the children on trips and visits due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

However, this year we will endeavour to take the children out into the local area and make use of the fantastic environment that surrounds us. Further details will follow in due course.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding your child’s education or well being, please do not hesitate to contact their class teacher.

We look forward to an enjoyable and productive year.

Mrs Cook

Year Leader

Class 4CC

Miss Dibdin

Class 4VD

Mr Gorsuch

Class 4PG

Mr Foley

Class 4SF