

CHRISTCHURCH JUNIOR SCHOOL

YEAR 4 SUMMER TERM 2023

WELCOME BACK

Wow—the year is flying by. How can we be in our final term already? We have been busy planning lots of exciting activities and are looking forward to making the most of the better weather to be outside more as part of our learning and enrichment time. Our highlights will be our Year 4 Sports Day and the residential outdoor activity trip.

ENGLISH

Our focus text for the first half term is *Arthur and the Golden Rope* by Joe Todd-Stanton. This is based on Norse mythology and links closely to our Vikings topic. We will be using the text as a stimulus to write a 'conquering a monster' tale and a metaphor poem. If your child would like to read more around the topic, *Beowulf* by Michael Morpurgo is a great read.

Our non-fiction based learning will be continue our work on persuasive writing, this time focusing on writing a book review. Our reading lessons will use our VIPERS skills to comprehend the hilarious book 'The Diary of a Killer Cat' by Anne Fine. Just a reminder that the children should be completing at least one lesson on Reading Plus or Reading Eggs every week as part of their homework. Spellings will continue to be sent home on a Friday, to be tested the following Friday and homework sheets should be handed in each week.

MATHEMATICS

We continue to use the Maths No Problem curriculum as the main basis for our Maths lessons alongside regular arithmetic and times table practise. Please continue to support your children with 'real life' maths—telling the time, calculating and using money and measurement (weight, distance and capacity).

In June, the children will be tested on their times tables using the Government's Multiplication Table Check. Please help your children to become proficient and fluent in their times tables up to 12 x 12. Doodle Maths should be used, little and often, to help fill any missing gaps and consolidate school learning. The children should try to stay in the green zone at all times—this forms part of our Maths homework expectations, along with regular use of TTRS.

COMPUTING

This term we will be learning about computer systems and how they work. This will develop the children's understanding of digital devices, with an initial focus on inputs, processes, and outputs.

SCIENCE

Our first science topic this term will explore Sound, linking closely with our music curriculum. We will look at how sounds are made through vibrations that travel to the ear, pitch and volume. For our second topic, we will be learning about electricity and will construct a simple electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers. This will link closely with our DT unit.

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

In French this term, the children will be learning how to describe the weather, key phrases to use 'In Town', how to say how they got to school (transport) and the names of classroom objects. In Spanish, the focus will be on celebrations, months of the year, pets, food and how to express an opinion.

GEOGRAPHY

After half term, the children will be developing their locational and place knowledge within the context of how humans impact the Earth's ecosystems. We will be looking at case studies around the world to help bring their learning to life.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In Summer 1, the children will be covering their final unit on Judaism, looking at the enquiry question of "What is the best way for a Jew to show commitment to God?". They will aim to understand how Jews show this, comparing their practices in order to explore which shows the most commitment. In Summer 2, the children will learn to understand how important going to church is to show someone is a Christian.

MUSIC

We are really excited that our music unit for this term will be taught my SoundStorm. They will be teaching the children how to play the Samba drums incorporating many skills including playing ensemble, looking at pulse, rhythm, meter, pitch, melody and harmony. They will also be developing the children's skills in reading music, composing and improvising. At the end of the unit the children will be given the opportunity to perform their samba drumming to another year group.

HISTORY

Why did the Vikings take to the seas? This is our enquiry question for our History unit this term. We will be using our historical detective skills to uncover why the Vikings invaded Britain, what happened at Lindisfarne in 793, why Alfred signed a treaty with Guthrum, who the Norse Gods were and why King Cnut tried to stop the tide from coming in!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND GAMES

Gym and Games will be taught weekly. Please ensure that children come to school on the days they have Gym or Games in their PE kit. Leggings, tracksuit bottoms and shorts should be plain not patterned.

4AA Tuesday and Wednesday

4NS Tuesday and Wednesday

4JW Tuesday and Wednesday

4PG Tuesday and 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.

ART AND DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

During the first Summer half term we will be using our local beach at Hengistbury Head and the New Forest as our inspiration for exploring the medium of printing through the style of Henri Matisse. After half term we will be making electronic games, linking our DT work with our science topic.

HOME LEARNING

In order to consolidate the children's learning, home learning tasks will be set each week. The children should be completing the following:

- Weekly **spelling** task handed out each Friday with words for children to learn (spelling tests will usually be the following Friday)
- Every child should **read regularly** at home – they should aim for an average of around 20 minutes at least 4 times per week. It will benefit your child greatly if they are encouraged to discuss the language, characters and plot lines when they read aloud at home. Please encourage your child to read a balance of fiction and non-fiction. At least 1 of their home reading sessions should be on **Reading Plus or Reading Eggs**.
- 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 are required to play **Times Tables Rock Star** as part of their homework at least twice a week for around 10 minutes per session with a home learning target of at least 150 points per week. They will also be encouraged to gain their multiplication and division badges.
- All children should be using Doodle Maths, little and often, to stay in the green zone.

If your child has any problems accessing any of the online programmes at home, please speak to their class teacher ASAP so we can ensure they have additional provision in school to complete their sessions. Thank you for your support with this.

TRIPS AND VISITS

Information about our residential trip will be sent separately.

We look forward to an enjoyable and productive term. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Serle

Interim Year Leader / Class 4NS

Mrs Arnold

Class 4AA

Miss Jackson

Class 4JW

Mr Gorsuch

Class 4PG