

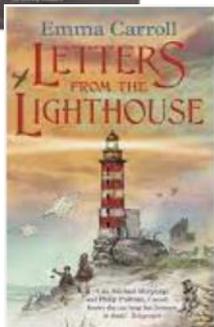
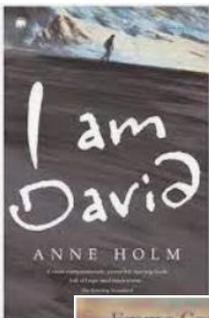
Class 4 Newsletter – Autumn 2021

It is wonderful to see everyone back in school and hear tales of their summer fun. The children have made a superb start to the new academic year and have been completing tasks in groups to re-establish friendships across the year groups. Mrs Newby will be teaching the class each Tuesday and we continue to have a staff member from Total Sports each Wednesday afternoon for PE. Our other PE session is Thursday morning. If you would like to volunteer to help in Class 4, please do get in touch – we love having extra adults to support us!



Maths

We are beginning with Place Value and Number skills, ensuring any gaps in knowledge and skills are plugged quickly before moving on the Four Operations. We then move to Fractions, Decimals and Percentages. Homework will be sent each Friday covering topics we have covered that week. This is to be handed in on the following Tuesday please. We hope to provide all children with a Times Table Rockstar password very soon.



English

Our Reading work is focused on the book 'I am David' which tells the story of a young boy who is allowed to escape from a concentration camp, and his journey to reach safety. Our Class story is 'Letters from the Lighthouse' which looks at the topic of refugees during WWII. We're continuing to stretch our vocabulary at all times and learning how to write more complex sentences, using a full range of punctuation. Our writing will focus on our topic themes. We will be covering two Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation tasks each week and ensuring we use our new skills to improve our writing. Spellings will be given each Monday and tested on Fridays after daily activities in school to help the children learn them. Please do ask them about their spellings and help them to practise.

Reading Pilot – we are taking part in a ten-week reading scheme which the children can access at home. Please do encourage them to log on and complete some of the activities, particularly if they find reading challenging. Login details can be found in their planners.

Science

We have two topics this term. Earth and Space, and Forces. Mrs Newby will be teaching Forces which will cover the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, and how the use of different mechanisms can allow a smaller force to have a greater effect. Our Earth and Space topic will allow us to work scientifically to prove that the Earth is spherical and that its rotation and movement around the Sun explain how day and night, and seasons occur. The children will be working hard to prove their ideas with concrete evidence.

History

Our title is 'Why was the Battle of Britain a significant turning point in British history?' We will look at the events leading up to the outbreak of war and this battle and the impact afterwards. Restrictions allowing, I hope to take the children to Eden Camp later this term.

Geography

Linking to our WWII theme, we will be ensuring that our knowledge of the countries involved in WWII is improved and that we can locate them on world maps. We will be comparing these countries to our own – from both an historical and modern perspective.





Art and DT

We will be designing and making model Anderson Shelters in our DT lessons – these must be strong enough to withstand being water bombed! Recipes from rationing cookbooks will be tried and tasted with the children working in small groups to bake. We will make rag rugs as our 'Make Do and Mend' project. Blitz pictures, poppy fields, aircraft and many other ideas will form our artwork where we will endeavour to use a range of media.

Computing

Each child has access to their own Chromebook now and we are quickly learning new skills to use them in many lessons. Our specific Computing work will focus initially on online safety, followed by creating and using spreadsheets.

RE

Our topics this term are: *What matters most to Christians and Humanists?* and *Was Jesus the Messiah?*

PSHE

We are looking at Right and Wrong this term, where we will discuss our responses when faced with moral dilemmas. We will talk about appropriate choices to situations and how we have to rely on our consciences.

Music

We begin by focusing our work on the song Happy by Pharrell Williams and using it to learn to improvise and compose. We then move to two songs for our Jazz unit, Bacharach Anorak and Meet The Blues, where we continue to work on our improvisation skills.

PE

Wednesday sessions continue to be taught by a staff member from Total Sports. Our Thursday sessions are being led by our new Sports Specialist, Mr Bessy – we are all learning new skills together during these lessons.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILDREN AT HOME

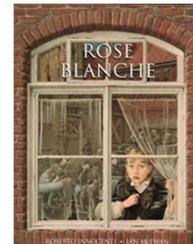
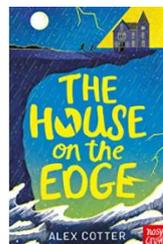
Many of the children are devouring books so I am hopeful that reminders to read are not needed – we have a great range of books in class and new books are always being added. The children are very good at checking the meaning of new **vocabulary** in class so please do encourage them to do the same at home – either by asking yourselves or using a dictionary.

Homework is being set twice-weekly - Monday and Friday. Please ensure there is somewhere quiet and free from distractions for your child to work. Support from yourselves can take many forms – sit alongside them if this is needed; encourage independent work first and then support if there are any difficulties, or leave to complete entirely independently.

Spellings are set each Monday and tested the following Friday.

Homework is due back in school on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Our new books this half term are:



As always, please do get in touch via email or phone and I'll get back to you as soon as possible.

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