

Year 4 Spring 1 Newsletter

What your child will be learning this half term:

Curriculum

Topic

Our topics for the Spring Term are 'The Victorians'

This will include:

- History – Who were the Victorians? What did the Victorians do for our local area? What changed during the Victorian period? What was the difference between how the rich and poor Victorians lived?



Numeracy

We will be developing our knowledge of solving addition and subtractions mentally, multiplying using the ladder method, dividing using the chunking method, recognising equivalent fractions, finding fractions of amounts, exploring properties of shape and symmetry.

Literacy

This half term we are reading the book 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty, which links in with our Victorian topic. Children will have to opportunity to write letters and a recount based on Jim Jarvis, the main character's life. We are also reading 'Journey to Jo'berg' by Beverly Naidoo, exploring the apartheid in South Africa.

Science

We will be investigating 'Electricity' creating electrical circuits, linking in with our DT topic; light up bugs.

ICT

This term we will be using Microsoft excel to input data and create graphs.

DT

We will be designing and making light-up bugs as part of our 'Electricity' unit in science, also linking to our topic of the Victorians as they invented electrical lighting.

PE

This term we will be learning badminton skills and swimming.

PSHE

Our topic for PSHE this half term is 'It's good to be me', children will explore their talents and identify their strengths and weaknesses.

RE

This half term we will be learning about what it means to be a Sikh.

Home Learning

Year 4 children are expected to complete approximately 1 ½ hours of home learning per week. This time is made up through a mixture of the following.

Daily reading - It is important that your child reads each day at home and that an adult hears them read. They should read for at least 10 minutes and a signature and comment should be made in their contact book about how they got on.

Times Tables – Your child will receive a specific times table to learn which will be tested every week.

Home learning research - Home learning vastly benefits and adds to the children's learning inside the classroom, and we strongly encourage children to fully participate. For every new topic we will provide a list of different activities or research opportunities for your child to complete, however if you can produce an alternative piece of research/artwork at home then this will also be appreciated.

Maths - This homework will be given out on a Thursday and expected to be handed in on the following Wednesday, homework is received online. To access this from home, visit www.activelearnprimary.co.uk. Each week, homework will be recorded in your child's home school contact book. Once completed a record of your child's score will be made next to it to inform you of their score and progress.

Every piece of homework your child completes will earn them a sticker towards the next wristband (25 stickers = bronze, 50 stickers = silver, 75 stickers = gold).

If your child does not have access to the internet at home, a homework club will be available for them during lunchtimes on Mondays/Tuesdays/Wednesday between 12:00-12:30 in the ICT Suite. If your child is unable to complete their maths homework at home, please inform your child's teacher.

Home/School Contact

All children should have a book bag in which to carry their reading book and homework. We ask that you stay in contact on a daily basis through our home/school contact book. This book should be used as a reading record and handed in to the class teacher on a daily basis; every time your child reads they will receive a sticker which will contribute towards a reward in class.

Behaviour

We have an Assertive Discipline Behaviour Policy at Stanwell Fields which lays down very clearly for each child the behaviour which is expected and the rewards which will be given. We have a new behaviour system whereby all children begin on the sunshine, one warning means they move down to the white cloud, another warning moves them down to the grey cloud (which means time out in another classroom) and another warning moves them down to the grey cloud with lightening which results in a detention. Alternatively, if a child shows outstanding behaviour they will move up from the sunshine to the rainbow. This year we have introduced the 'rainbow star' this is for exceptional consistent behavior if a child goes onto the rainbow star their parents/careers will receive a Superstar note. If a child receives a detention, you will be informed either in the playground after school or by phone the same day.

Our Golden Rule at Stanwell Fields is 'Respect', which applies to every aspect of school life.

Uniform	
Boys	Girls
Grey trousers or shorts Royal blue sweatshirt White school shirt or polo shirt Black or grey socks	Grey skirt, pinafore or trousers Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan White school shirt or polo shirt Blue and white school dress in summer Black, grey or white socks or tights
Our school tie is optional Black school shoes that fasten securely with a low heel.	
PE White T-shirt, royal blue shorts, plimsolls or trainers. A tracksuit may be worn in the winter for outside lessons.	

Please ensure all uniform is named. Mislaid items can then quickly be returned. No jewellery should be worn to school except for religious reasons. Please write to the headteacher if you wish to request this.

PE

Both classes will have PE on Wednesday afternoons. Lions have PE on Tuesday mornings and Tigers have PE on Thursday mornings. Once per half term, every year group has an afternoon of Sports Focus where an external sporting company comes into school to teach specialised sports lessons.

Parent Support in School

If any parents would like to offer some of their time and volunteer in school then please speak to the office and ask for a CRB form.

Attendance

If your child is to achieve and fulfill their potential, they must be in school on time every day. Your child's target for attendance is 95%.

We thank you very much in advance for your support and co-operation this academic year.

Miss K Everett
Tigers' class

Miss S Pross
Lions' class