



NICHOLAS HAWKSMOOR  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

*An Academy of Academic, Artistic, Athletic and Excellence*

Spring Term

# Year 4 Newsletter

## The Year 4 Team

### Teachers

**Miss Bush**

Class Teacher

**Mr Yates**

Class Teacher

**Mrs Hunt**

Teaching Assistant

**Mrs Last**

Associate Teacher

**Miss Sensoy**

Associate Teacher

### Home Learning

Please continue to support your child with learning by reading daily, practicing weekly spellings and Mathletics.

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! We hope you all enjoyed the recent holiday and are ready for the term ahead.

We have lots of exciting topics planned for this term to continue all the hard work the children put in last term. In March, there will be another opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher at parents evening, however, if there is anything you wish to discuss before hand, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## Subject Overviews

### English

The English writing topic for the first half term will be Dragons, followed by non-fiction writing around the Normans and the Battle of Hastings. With lessons based on these exciting topics, the children will focus on varying and improving their sentence structure through writing a mixture of information texts, fictional texts and poems. The children will also be encouraged to comment on a range of texts which will help them in developing their own writing skills and use of punctuation. Throughout the term we will be continuing with our weekly spelling and grammar lesson which have a different focus each week. The children will be encouraged to apply these patterns and rules to their independent writing.

### Maths

At the beginning of this term, the children will continue to develop their understanding of multiplication and division calculations, using a formal written method accurately to solve problems. They will then move on to learn about area and perimeter.

In the second half of the spring term, the focus in Maths will be on fractions and decimals. The children will use fractions to calculate quantities as well as add and subtract fractions with the same denominator. The children will then be focusing on the relationship between decimals and fractions, identify the value of each digit in a decimal. We will continue to set weekly homework on Mathletics to reinforce our learning in school. We will also be focusing on learning our times tables

### Science

During the first half of the Spring term the children will be learning about Sound. This will include a variety of investigations into how sound travels, how it is made and how it can be changed. To do this the children will explore how to make their own sounds and look at how to change the pitch and volume. In the second half of the term, the topic within science will be Electricity, where the children will build circuits and look at how electricity is sourced. To develop their understanding of these topics the children will be presented with a variety of investigations to carry out.

### Computing

During this next term of Computing we will be following a course of study about recording, editing and producing digital music using a variety of online software and apps. We will be making melodies and creating soundscapes while examining how these things are done professionally.

## Events

**11th February**

Year 4, 5 and 6  
Movie Night

**4th February**

Cadbury World Trip

**5th/6th March**

Parents' Evening

**15th March**

Comic Relief

## Subject Overviews

### Humanities

In the first part of the term, the children will learn about the Ancient Mayans through a series of engaging and information packed lessons. The classes will be introduced to facts about the Maya people and their past in history. By the end of the topic, the children will have participated in Mayan games, explored information about the Mayans, compared their skills to the Egyptians and used Maya symbols to write a message. We also visit Cadbury World as part of this topic and enjoy a Mayan Workshop while we are there.

Later in the term, the children will move onto a Geography topic of Hemispheres and Climate Zones. Within this topic, the children will be encouraged to develop their map skills and understanding of the world. Comparisons between countries and climate zones will be made, whilst also expanding our knowledge of places around the world and their location.

### Design and Technology

During this term the children will be working with K'nex. Within these lessons the children will choose from a range of tools and equipment and construct things accurately. They will have the opportunity to evaluate their work and begin to develop more complex structures following sets of instructions.

### PE

In PE lessons we will be looking at developing the children's social skills and fundamental skills to develop their gymnastic abilities. They will be working through different levels of skills which will help them to develop their balances and shapes through floor work and apparatus. The children will also work on their fundamental PE skills like throwing, catching and feet work over this term.

Swimming will continue to be on a weekly basis this term and during these lessons we will be focussing on developing the children's front crawl, breast stroke and back stroke. Throughout these lessons the children will also be working on a variety of water skills and building up their confidence as well as stamina within the water. 4MY swim at 11.00 and 4CB will swim at 11.30.

### French

This term we will be concentrating on 'er' verbs. We will look at how they change and learn a song to help us with our grammar! Later in the term we begin a new topic 'A l'ecole, leaning the school subjects'. All lessons will adopt a visual, auditory and kinesthetic approach to ensure all pupils are fully engaged in their learning.

### The Arts

#### Art:

This term the children will be inspired by Ancient Mayan art to create Mayan Symbols. Working collaboratively with clay they will produce 3D models.

Quality, Enthusiasm and Partnership