



Year 4 Autumn Newsletter 2020

Welcome to year 4!

I am very pleased to be able to teach the marvellous Jupiter Class. Miss Johnson and I have had a great couple of weeks back with them. We have been particularly impressed by their attitude to learning. It was fantastic to see how excited they were to be back at school and reunited with their friends. We have an exciting term planned, including a broad and balanced recovery curriculum which will ensure that the children are happy and ready to learn. We will spend time consolidating learning from the previous to ensure that they are confident and secure in their understanding. We will also be doing a lot of physical exercise and art activities to ensure that we are focusing on their well-being.

We will continue to have high expectations and will always challenge the children to push themselves and think in different ways. Learning will be as creative as possible to motivate Jupiter to achieve.

As always please contact the school office on 020 **8520 6267** or email admin@coppermill.waltham.sch.uk if you would like to schedule a phone call meeting to answer any questions or concerns.

Thanks for your continued support. We look forward to a great term with your children!

Mr Dudley and Miss Johnson



Literacy



As part of cross-curricular learning, the topic for this term is Roman life. The children will be reading key texts linked to these topics such as 'The Journal of Iliona – Young Slave'. We will be sequencing and writing stories, creating role plays and freeze frames and writing a non-chronological report. In addition, the children will learn how to construct and begin their sentences in a variety of ways. We will also cover how to effectively use figurative language devices such as similes, metaphors, alliteration and personification. For our topic literacy lessons in Autumn term 2 we will be exploring Roman myths and Romans in Britain.

Furthermore, in whole class reading we will be exploring different fiction and non-fiction books by practising the different skills to comprehend these texts. We will discuss ideas and themes and rehearse how to answer specific question based on these texts.

The children will be taught grammar as part of their literacy lessons on Monday and Tuesday, together with spelling.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their literacy skills:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/> <https://uk.ixl.com/ela/year-4>

<http://www.ictgames.com/literacy.html>



Mathematics



This term, Year 4 pupils are going to begin by building upon their knowledge of number. We will be exploring different strategies that children can use to answer questions involving the four operations (+ - x ÷). This will also include practising 1 and 2 step word problems. Additionally, this year sees the introduction of a national test for times tables in Year 4. Therefore, we will focus on learning our multiplication facts up to 12. The children will be given weekly multiplication table lists to practise at home. In this case, we would appreciate it if parents/carers assist in helping your children learn these.

Continuing our drive to make children confident mathematicians, we will be focusing on the skill explaining our answers as well as solving them.

For example: *'I know that $4 \times 4 = 16$ because....'* *'Therefore I know that 400×400 will be...'*

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their maths skills:

<https://uk.ixl.com/math/year-4>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/>

<https://www.mathsisfun.com> The 'Math Trainer' is especially good at practising their times tables at speed.

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2numeracy.html>

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/timestable/interactive.htm>

<http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>



Science

Friday mornings are now dedicated to Science, giving us space to build skills in observing, pattern seeking, research, classification and comparative and fair testing. This term will be learning about solids, liquids and gases.

Autumn Term: Why don't we ever run out of water? [Changing States]

In this project, children will investigate the changes that occur when different materials change state between solid, liquid and gas. They will apply what they have learnt to the water cycle and use their scientific understanding to hypothesise about where our water comes from, and why it never seems to run out.



Humanities



We want children throughout the school to be able to build an overview of world history, understand when events happened in relation to each other and to be able to investigate and interpret the past.

Did the Romans impact life in Britain?

In this unit, pupils will look at how Britain changed under Roman occupation. We will be looking at possible reasons why they invaded; how the other tribes living in Britain responded (such as Boudicca); what daily life was like; how towns were formed and what the Romans built around Britain. These lessons will teach key historical skills such as using sources and questioning and evaluating evidence.



Computing

In Computing, there will be a continued focus on online safety. We will also be looking at block programming, using Scratch to create a Slug Trail game. Children will also learn to use Microsoft Sway to publish a written piece of their work.

We will soon be receiving a new set of Chromebooks, to use within our Bubble. This is very exciting news but, unfortunately, there has been a delay in their delivery date. We hope to have them before half-term so that we can make full use of them in our Computing and wider curriculum.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their computing skills:

www.scratch.mit.edu

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

www.kidsmart.org.uk

www.code.org



Art/Design & Technology

We will be looking at art inspired by natural disasters. The children will be observing and recreating some popular pieces of art. We will be creating our own exploding volcanoes.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their artistic skills:

<https://sciencebob.com/make-your-own-volcano/>

<http://www.artsconnected.org/toolkit/index.html>

<http://www.disney.co.uk/disney-junior/art-attack/>

http://www.mykidsart.com.au/Vincent_van_Gogh_Famous_Artists_My_Kids_Art.html



R.E.



This term in RE we will be studying Buddhism. The children will learn about the story of Buddha and his teachings. The children will be revisiting aspects of Buddhists' beliefs such as:

- The Four Noble Truths
- The Eightfold Path

We will also be learning about the Buddhist festival of Wesak.

Next term, we will be learning about what it is like to be a practising Sikh.



P.E.

P.E. for Jupiter class will be on Thursdays.

This term we will be studying dance and choreographing a piece based on Volcanoes to the music of Holst's Planets Suite. We will also be participating in weekly runs (weather permitting) as part of the 'Coppermile'.

Please make sure your child wears their P.E. kit to school on this day. This must include shorts, jogging bottoms, a non-branded t-shirt and jumper in order to prepare for the indoor and outdoor activities. Please ensure all items of clothing are labelled to avoid any confusion when items are misplaced.



Home Learning

Maths, spellings and multiplication homework will be handed out each Monday. Maths homework is due in on the following Monday and is important that all homework is handed in on time. Spelling tests will occur every Monday morning. Your child will receive:

- Weekly Maths homework
- Weekly spellings and multiplication tests to be completed in class.
- Daily reading with a school/home book. The children will be encouraged to read independently and as a group. By Year 4 many pupils will enjoy reading by themselves. However it is important that children still sometimes read out loud to their parents and discuss the storyline, as this is the best way of checking that children understand what they are reading and that they are pronouncing words correctly. Some children will be set Bug Club reading scheme books to complete online.
- To develop your child's understanding, you may ask questions such as:
 - *Why do think the character did that?*
 - *How do you know?*
 - *How do think the character feels?*
 - *What do you think might happen next?*
 - *Can you summarise what you have just read?*



General notices/requests

Queries, worries or questions

If you have a concern or any questions, feel free to pop in and see us at the end of the school day at 3:20pm. We will be at the door ensuring children are safely dismissed.

Please be aware that time at the end of the day can be limited, so if you need to discuss anything in more detail, please call the school office on **020 8520 6267** to arrange an appointment. Alternatively, you can email the school at school@coppermill.waltham.sch.uk

Thank you for all your support. We look forward to an exciting term with your children!

Mr Dudley and Ms Johnson