



# Crabtree Farm Primary School

## Spring Newsletter

Maid Marian and Little John

January 2023

### Year 4 Information

#### English

In the first half of this term, we will be reading 'The London Eye Mystery'. We will be learning about what mystery stories are and how we can build suspense in our writing. We will be using all of this knowledge to write our very own mystery stories



After February half term, we will be reading the book 'Holes' and writing a non-chronological report.

We will also be focusing on handwriting and spelling so please ensure your children are practising their spellings at home every week.

#### Maths

During this term, we will cover a few different topics in maths. We begin the term looking at multiplication and division. We will identify some different methods for solving problems and answering questions.

Then, we will look at measurement, with a focus on finding the area of a 2D shape.

After February half term, we will spend the majority of our maths lessons looking at decimals and fractions. This skill links to other areas of the maths curriculum that we have already covered.

We also will continue to place a large emphasis on times tables and the children increasing their fluency and speed.

#### Diversity Calendar

This term as part of our whole school diversity calendar we will be learning about:

- Martin Luther-King
- Luna New Year
- Lent (Christianity)
- Holi (Hindu and Sikh)
- International Women's Day
- National Autism Day
- Vikram Samvat (Hindu New Year)
- Ramadan (Islam)
- Easter (Christian)

Welcome back to Year 4! We hope you had a lovely break. This term we are looking forward to learning lots of exciting things before the Easter holidays.

#### Geography

Our geography topic this term is All Around The World. We will be developing our map skills by learning all about the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, the equator, latitude and climate zones. We will also be learning about the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn and the Arctic and Antarctic circles.



#### History

In the second half of spring term, we will be looking at Crime and Punishment. We will be looking at how the justice system worked in the past and comparing it with our current, modern justice system. We will be thinking about actions and consequences. One of the big questions we will think about is rehabilitation—should people be given another chance?



#### RE

In our second unit after half term, we are looking at symbols and religious expressions. This will involve us looking at how Christians, Muslims and Hindus go on pilgrimages and why these are important. We will compare these with other spiritual journeys that people might take that are not religious (non-religious worldviews). We will use this topic to recognise different reasonable ideas and practices that people may undertake. This gives the children an opportunity to ask questions and think about their own views.

### School Trips and Experiences

We appreciate that many of you like to plan for the cost of school trips in advance, so please see below the trip and in school experiences we have planned for the rest of the year. Please be aware that it may be subject to change nearer the time.

#### **Partake- Ancient Egyptians Workshop**

Wednesday 28th June– approximately £5

#### **Twycross Zoo**

Date TBC– appropriately £10

### Reading Books and Homework

Your child will bring home a banded reading book and a free choice reading book. Please read with your child at least 5 times a week. When you sign their diary after reading, they will move up our class reading charts and earn badges as they go. It is very important that your child brings their reading books into school **every day** as we will be reading our books during the week.

Spellings and Maths homework will be handed out each Monday. Please return them to school by the Friday of the same week.

### Times Tables Check

All students in Year 4 will be required to take a multiplication test at the end of the year. It will consist of 25 questions and the children will only get 6 seconds to answer each question. It is really important that your child practises their times tables regularly, and goes onto Times Tables Rockstars as often as possible.

### PE

#### **Did you know... exercise helps your brain function better?**

In the first half term we will be going **swimming** on **Mondays and Thursdays**. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate swimwear and a towel. Please also ensure that long hair is tied back and earrings are removed.

We will confirm our PE days for Spring 2 nearer the time. We would like to remind you that the children are allowed to wear their PE kits all day on PE days. This PE kit is a school polo shirt, school jumper or cardigan, black jogging bottoms or leggings and trainers.

### Dates for your Diary

13th-17th March –**British Science Week**

January 5th - **Return to school**

15th March– **Parents' Open Afternoon** 1.30pm- 6pm

6th-10th February – **Wellbeing Week**

17th March –**Red Nose Day**

7th February– **safer internet day**

23rd March– **World Maths Day**

10th February– **Last day of school**

24th March– **National Skipping Day**

20th February –**Return to school**

28th March– **Easter Disco**

2nd March –**World Book Day**

31st March –**Last day of school**

### Science

This half term, we will be learning about living things. This will include using classification keys to decide if an animal is a vertebrate or an invertebrate. In the second half term, we will be learning about states of matter. We will be comparing and grouping materials according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases. We will also be learning about evaporation, condensation and recapping the water cycle.

### Relationship and Sex Education

In RSE, we will be learning about the differences between male and female body parts. We will also be learning about the changes that happen to our bodies as we go through puberty.

We recommend the following books that support the teaching of our RSE:

- ◆ Hair in Funny Places by Babette Cole
- ◆ Where Willy Went by Nicholas Allan
- ◆ Amazing You! By Gail Saltz

### Questions and Issues

If you have any questions or issues with any aspect of your child's school life, please let us know. The best time to speak to any member of the team is at the end of the school day, when you can make an appointment to discuss any issues.