

Greenvale Primary School
Spring Term Curriculum Newsletter
Year 4 – Jays

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back after what we hope has been a relaxing break for all! We would like to start by again thanking you all for your generous Christmas gifts. They were all greatly enjoyed and much appreciated!

We are looking forward to the forthcoming term and hope that it will prove to be as exciting and enjoyable as the first. The children have settled back into school routines quickly and are showing a great enthusiasm for the topics we shall be covering.

With the demanding curriculum changes and greater expectations for year 4 children it is important that they are encouraged, at home, to learn their times tables and corresponding division facts. It is also important to ensure your child is reading daily and completing homework tasks when set. Your support with this is appreciated and can certainly make a difference.

Below is a brief summary of the main topics we will be covering this term.

English	We will be looking at different forms of poetry and performing pieces chosen by the children. Children will be writing a recount of a school trip and exploring a fantasy world through both role play and dialogue. Children will be writing persuasive letters and using persuasive language to debate topics addressed. We will also continue to work on punctuation and grammar tasks to strengthen the written work that they produce.
Mathematics	Alongside our continual work on problem solving and multiplication facts, children will continue to reinforce their knowledge of addition and subtraction methods. Children will revisit their work on fractions and we will be starting a unit of work on angles. We will also be finding change from given amounts of money as well as looking at the area and perimeter of shapes.
IPC	<p>We will be finishing our topic on Different Places, Similar Lives by looking at maps and our local area.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Bright Sparks</u></p> <p><u>In Science, we'll be finding out:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to make an electrical circuit • What happens when we change a circuit • About magnetism and electricity • How to build bigger circuits • About using electricity as heat • How to keep safe around electricity • What materials allow electricity to pass through them <p><u>In History, we'll be finding out:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About the history of the electric light bulb <p><u>In Technology, we'll be finding out:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to make a house with lighting and a door buzzer
ICT	This term we will be learning how to design and prototype an interactive toy.

RE	Children will be looking at Christianity and the early life of Jesus including baptism. We will be looking at the significance of Easter.
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Maths guidance

As already stated, the expectation set by the government is that, by the end of year 4, children should know all of their times tables up to and including the 12 times tables as well as their corresponding division facts. Your child will find accessing the maths curriculum difficult without securing this knowledge. I would therefore ask that you work with us and ensure that these are practised regularly at home.

Please continue to work on these at home with your children. This also applies to those who already have received their gold award.

Reading

It is expected that you will read with your children each night. Please discuss the book with them to help to develop their comprehension skills. Children will participate in guided reading sessions whilst at school and have the opportunity to change their home reading book as appropriate.

Homework

Spellings will be issued on a Wednesday and tested each Monday. Homework will also be set on a Wednesday and is expected to be completed and returned the following Monday.

PE

Children will have gymnastics with Chris on a Tuesday and they will have games on a Thursday afternoon with Mrs Greenwood. For both of these sessions long hair must be tied up and earrings must be removed

Soundstart

The children will be responsible for bringing their instruments and accompanying music books to our Soundstart lessons each Thursday.

Trips

We will be attending a performance at the Quest Academy. A letter regarding this will be sent out shortly.

Things the Jays need

Please can you continue to send your children in with boxes of tissues for use within class. We would also appreciate any donations of recyclable items (toilet rolls, cereal boxes, yoghurt pots, shoe boxes, etc).

If you have any queries, questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me regarding these. I do understand that matters can arise that do need to be addressed before school, however if possible, please refrain from coming into the classroom before school, as this is a particularly busy time. For any issues at the start of the day, please speak to Mrs Catchpole. I am also available to discuss any issues after school and am contactable via email.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss Mendez (smendez2@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk)

Mrs Catchpole