



Abbots Farm Junior School

Learners for Life, Farmers Forever

Resilient, Ambitious, Reflective, Healthy Body and Mind

YEAR 4 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year! Welcome to the Spring Term with so much ahead for the children to look forward to with their learning. We are all delighted to welcome the children back after a well earned break. Children have returned with great enthusiasm for their learning, settling down to work quickly and everyone is embracing the schools key values in their daily learning.

What's happening in Year 4 this term?

Maths

Throughout this term, the main areas we will be covering are:

- Multiplication and division
- Measurement (area)
- Fractions and decimals

Multiplication table knowledge will be regularly developed and evaluated therefore please feel free to test them at every opportunity. We are still registered to use Times Table Rockstars, the online times table resource which is a fun way to practise times tables. All children have their own login details with times tables set for them to learn. Please encourage your children to use this learning tool. We will continue to have **weekly times tables/mental maths tests** on a **Thursday** and will be expecting children to work on these and practise them at home ready for our test. Well done to those who worked so hard to learn their tables last term; it really has made a difference!

English

Within **English**, our focus text will be 'The Invention of Hugo Cabret' by Brian Selznick, which is a wonderful book that will captivate the interest of the children as The Butterfly Lion did.

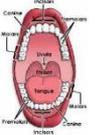
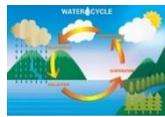
As well as this key book, we will be using a variety of texts in which the children will develop their use of inference skills, understanding of a particular author's style of writing, writing non-chronological reports, sets of instructions, diaries and descriptive poetry. We will also be continuing to develop children's grammar and punctuation skills and there will be a large emphasis on using accurate spelling, grammar and punctuation in writing.



REMEMBER the library is open every day after school and the Y4 lunchtime slot is Thursday for you to choose new books and enjoy reading in our library area!

We will also visit the library as a class at least once a week.

<h2 style="text-align: center;">Creative Curriculum</h2>	<p>Our cross curricular work for the term will be based on the theme 'Ancient Egypt'. Previous Y4s have loved this topic and judging by their enthusiasm already with some fabulous topic home learning, we are sure this year will be no different.</p> <p>We will explore placing the Egyptians in the timeline of civilisations as well as deepening the children's understanding of the concept of change over time. They will use their prior knowledge of maps, atlases and other resources to further research and reason. We hope to fuel their curiosity as Historians by discovering the depth of the Egyptian's achievements.</p> <p>Games and Physical Education (PE) – Please note some changes to our timetable. B4 have PE on Monday and Games on Thursday. W4 have PE on Tuesday and Games on Thursday.</p>
<h2 style="text-align: center;">Science</h2>	<p>We will be covering the following 2 Science topics this term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through the 'Animals, including humans' topic, children will be finding out about the functions of our teeth and explore the passage of food through the digestive system. <p>In our 'Materials' topic, the children will investigate changes in state of materials as well develop a clear understanding of the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle.</p>



Home Learning

Home learning this term will continue to be completed in our home learning books. Thank you for the time and effort your children put into completing their home learning. All of the children have come back really enthused to learn about the Ancient Egyptians and have already produced some fabulous home learning. We can't wait to see more incredible work from them on this topic as we progress through the term. Weekly home learning sheets will continue to focus on times tables (weekly practise sheet and Times Table Rockstars), reading, spellings as well as an English and Mathematics task. It will continue to be set on a Friday to be returned on the following Wednesday. Parental involvement is regarded as a positive way to support your child's learning away from school and we have really appreciated any feedback you have written on the home learning sheets.

Key Dates

Class Assemblies at 9:05:

Sparrows (W4) – Wednesday 6th Feb
Robins(B4) – Wednesday 27th Mar

Y4 Open afternoon – Tuesday 5th Mar

Other Dates:

Ancient Egyptian Trip – The British Museum Tuesday 2nd Apr

Parents evenings – Tuesday 12th & Thursday 14th Feb

Remember to keep an eye on the school website www.abbotsfarm.co.uk and follow us on Twitter @abbotsfarm to keep up to date with the latest events and information



We hope that the information in this letter will help you to assist your child with their learning this term. If you wish to contact us for any reason, please feel free to speak to the office to arrange a time.

Best wishes

Mrs Beech, Mr Wolsey, Mrs Jones and Mrs Issitt

