

Four Lanes Community Junior School



Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter

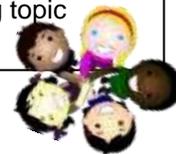
Spring 1 2018

4RD Mrs Davies, 4MC Miss Cade 4BB Mrs Bridge, Year Leader Mrs Sale
Supported by our LSAs Mrs Harrison and Miss Hunt



Happy New Year! We hope you all had a relaxing break. It has been lovely to hear all that the children have been up to over the holiday. Thank you to all of the parents that have very kindly offered to help out in Year 4 again this spring term. If anybody suddenly realises they have some spare time to support the children with times tables and reading each week, please do not hesitate to contact us; we can always use an extra pair of hands!

We have had a busy start to this half term already and the children are looking forward to their recycling topic which will include a visit to Festival Place to see their award winning facilities.



Main topics and learning this term:

'What a load of Rubbish' (Recycling!)

Food Chains

We are investigating recycling this half term and the children are exploring the reasons behind why we recycle as well as methods of recycling. Our trip to Festival Place will give the children a huge amount of fascinating information about recycling. Through the rest of the topic we will be investigating facts and figures associated with recycling in the UK and debating the use of landfill sites before proposing actions we can take to conserve the environment.



In science this term the children will be analysing temperature and daylight hours for a longitudinal study on the effect that the changes may have on wildlife. Our main science topic is food chains and there will be lots of opportunities for the children to apply their maths data handling skills to categorise organisms. They will also be exploring how animals and plants exist alongside each other to form food chains. Finally, we will be making our long awaited trip to QMC for some expert learning on the subject.

In English the children will be writing non-chronological recycling reports. They will also explore how to write balanced discussions around the recycling topic followed by explanations based on the same topic. There will also be an exciting opportunity to evaluate a range of non-fiction texts in order to cast their votes for the Hampshire Information Book Award.



In maths we are continuing to consolidate strategies for the four operations, starting with multiplication, to enable us to work with larger numbers. We will be moving forward with our understanding of fractions and looking more closely at the decimal system and handling data through our science projects. All of these topics require quick recall of times tables so please keep working on them at home.

Our learning continues to link to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, particularly Articles 12, 13 and 17. The children are able to talk about these rights in respect of their learning and the effects on the people of the world around them.



How you can support your child's learning at home:

- Reading remains fundamental to your child's further learning so please listen to your child on a regular basis regardless of their ability. If your child has Bug Club, please help them use it and look out for the parent reading booklet and workshop coming your way!
- Constant revision of multiplication and division facts will always be useful; Mymaths, Woodlands Maths Zone and x Table Rock Stars are useful sites. Please record any activities that your child does in their Home-link Book and ensure these are in school each day.

Homework:

This is set weekly on a Friday for return on the following Wednesday. This half term Maths and English homework will be set on alternate weeks. The children should spend no longer than 40 minutes on each piece. Please look out for this and encourage your children to work effectively, carefully but as independently as possible. Where they have received any guidance from you, please note this in the book to enable us to support them further in school. Spellings are sent home and tested on Fridays.

A few reminders:

- PE will take place on Wednesdays and Tuesdays or Thursdays this term. Please ensure your child's PE kit is in school on these days. However it is always useful for their kit to be in every day of the week; just in case.
- Our School Library time is on a Tuesday afternoon.
- **Dates:** 26th/27th Feb trip to QMC (further info to follow), 12th February - Half Term, 19th February -INSET
- Just before Christmas, we set a new reading challenge (a really challenging challenge!) of reading 200 books by the end of the summer term. We talked about it with the whole year group and answered all the questions they had. ANY book counts – please support them in working towards their personal goal. Many thanks.