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Year 4 Newsletter Autumn 1 2023



What a fantastic start it has been for Year 4 at the junior school! They have taken the move in their stride and are already giving Year 5 and 6 a run for their money when it comes to showing amazing behaviour for learning. The launch to our learning challenge of 'What did the Ancient Greeks bring to the world?' saw the intriguing arrival of a labyrinth at the start of the term and learning has continued at a fast pace since. Our focus in Science will be sound - string telephones at the ready!



English

This term we will be writing our own **defeating a monster story** based on *Theseus and the Minotaur*. We will be looking at how we can **add descriptive detail** in our writing and use **expanded noun phrases** to make our stories stand out. We will also be writing an **information text** incorporating learning about what the Ancient Greeks brought to the world.

Maths



This half term we will be focusing on: **place value, addition and subtraction**. We will be exploring and comparing numbers beyond **1,000** and using written and mental strategies to help us add and subtract. As part of this unit, we will also be **rounding** to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. Remember that your homework on **Mangahigh** will support our learning in school.

Reading at Home



Your child should be reading their colour banded book daily at home for 10-15 minutes. We expect to see a Seesaw post at least 3 times a week with a picture of the book. This year, we are also introducing **Book Talk** sessions every **Friday**, where children will be discussing the book they are currently reading with their peers in class. As such, it is important that your child has their **reading book in school every Friday**. This will help us track and monitor reading in school. Remember your child can still change their books every day in class.

Learning at Home

Your child will have access to Mangahigh, Times Tables Rock Stars and EdShed in order to support their learning at home. These online resources are designed to be a fun way for your children to further develop their skills in both maths and literacy.



Each week, your child will be set new words on EdShed and these will be the focus of a weekly look at spellings across the week. Login details for all apps will be added to Seesaw and saved in a 'Password' folder.

Important Information

PE/Swimming



PE in Year 4 will be every Monday this year. Please note the new PE kit is now a **black t-shirt and black shorts, skirt or leggings**. Further information about swimming (starting Thursday 14th September) will be sent out by Mr Knowles, which will be organised slightly differently this year. Please note that the appropriate swimwear must be worn and goggles are only permitted for medical reasons. For PE, it is essential that children bring in a suitable outdoor games kit: black tracksuit and waterproof jacket.

Lost Property



Please ensure your child's clothes are all labelled. Every Friday, all unnamed lost property will be put out on tables in the playground for everyone to view.

Did you hear...?

Mysteriously, King Minos set up his own labyrinth in Year 4 at the start of term and asked for brave volunteers to defeat the Minotaur. Luckily, we all made it out alive! Our launch of the topic this term will also include a delicious taste of Greek tasting menu.



Dates for your diary...

Wednesday 27th September
Curriculum evening at 3.45pm and again at 4.30pm (Zoom links to be sent out in advance).

Monday 10th October
World Mental Health Day

Friday 20th October
School finished for half term.



A comprehensive list of dates can be found on the whole school newsletter [here](#).