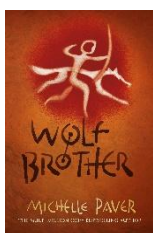


Class 4 Curriculum Newsletter Spring Term 1 – Stone Age



Happy New Year and welcome back. This half term we will be focusing on history and this time we will be digging further back into history to explore the stone age. We will journey back 10,000 years to the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods to explore how ancient humans lived, what may their lives have been like and what may their day-to-day experiences might have been like. How did they evolve towards the bronze age and how have we been able to learn so much about them? We will investigate through using a range of sources and discuss how we ensure that these sources are reliable. What was Skara Brae and what is so fascinating about the ancient monument known as Stonehenge? **Please ensure your child is learning their Knowledge Organiser facts as there will be a regular weekly quiz.**



In English, we will begin our half term exploring the story 'Wolf Brother', a novel by Michelle Paver that explores the life of Torak and his wolf cub. Recently orphaned, Torak must lead his new companion on an epic journey through the stone age in a bid to escape a threat to their whole world. We will be developing our use and understanding of figurative language; why does the author use these features and what is their impact on the reader. The children will begin to use personification, idiom, and hyperbole to improve the standard of their writing. Later this half term, we will then begin to take a closer look at formal reports and begin to write our own based on our growing knowledge of the stone age. Our reading workshops will continue to focus on key reading skills, exploring how characters emotions change and grow and how authors represent these in their writing, exploring vocabulary and making discussing meaning that is either stated or implied. Ask the children about their 'Vocabulary Ninja' words of the day to encourage them to explain their understanding. Please allow time to discuss what children are reading at home and allow the children to explain their understanding of what they have been reading.



We will continue to regularly send reading books home and aim to change these on a regular basis. We will expect ALL reading books to be in school every day as the start of our school day will always revolve around reading and setting a calm focused start to our learning. Children should be reading a minimum 3-5 times a week for at least ten minutes. If they achieve this, they will be entered into the reading raffle and could win a prize at the end of the half term. Please ensure that these home readers are in school every day as reading will place regularly, either with myself and Mrs Spencer and ensure that the children are entered into the Reading Raffle.

Home learning will continue to go home every Thursday so please ensure that home learning is back in school each Tuesday to allow us time to check and give out the new home learning.

In Maths we will continue to focus on basic skills, place value and our understanding of the four operations. This half term we will also be exploring fractions, ratios, shape and measurements. Every day we will be exploring mental and written strategies and exploring a range of methods to solve addition and subtraction problems.

In our R.E. lessons, the children will be learning about Hinduism. What do we understand about our journey through life? What are our important milestones? We will explore Hindu belief, their journey and why they choose to live their lives in a certain way.

P.E. will take place on Friday afternoon. This half term we will continue focusing on dance skills and developing these skills further. Please do not send your child in earrings on P.E. days as, even if they can be removed, there is always the worry that things will be lost! **This half term, Class 4 will be swimming so please ensure that you have your swimming kit, goggles and swimming hats on a Monday.**



Do not hesitate to contact me when needed.

Mr McGurk