



Achieving the best

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Dear Parents and Carers of Farook Class,

Curriculum News

English

This half term in English, we will begin with an exciting *wow start* in which an alien lands on the school field. The children will be using a range of persuasive techniques to convince the police to allow the alien to repair his spaceship and return home. This writing unit will give us the skills we need for the writing that will be linked with our Science topic, where we will be learning about keeping teeth healthy and making sensible choices when it comes to drinks. As the half term progresses, the children will move on to writing recounts based on our upcoming trip to Lyme Regis, before finishing with a set of instructions on how to make cupcakes—an activity that connects with our DT work later in the term.

Maths

In Maths, we are starting one of our favourite units: fractions. The children will be working through plenty of practical activities to help them understand equal parts of a whole, and as always, pancakes and Smarties will play an essential role in bringing these concepts to life. Throughout the unit, we will explore fractions of amounts, add and subtract fractions, look closely at equivalent fractions, and learn how to convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions. Each week, the children will complete an arithmetic paper alongside reasoning and problem-solving tasks. Towards the end of the half term, we will be studying mass and capacity in a practical and hands-on way, linking this learning to our DT baking sessions.

Times tables remain a key priority, especially for Year 4 pupils preparing for the Multiplication Tables Check in the summer term. Please encourage regular practice on Times Table Rock Stars at home.

Science

Our Science topic, "Animals Including Humans," is always thoroughly enjoyed by the children. We will begin by exploring the structure and function of teeth before investigating digestion in humans. One particularly memorable experiment involves observing how eggshells change over time when soaked in different drinks, helping the children understand the effects of sugary or acidic liquids on tooth enamel. We will also recreate the digestive system from start to finish—an unforgettable activity that includes making model "poo"! In addition, we will be examining different animals' teeth and learning about simple food chains.

Art and DT

Our Art lessons this half term will be based around fruit and vegetables, linking with our PSHE and Science learning about healthy lifestyles. The children will explore a range of media as they create charcoal peppers, sculpt clay peppers, and experiment with colour using both drawing and paint to represent different fruits and vegetables. In DT, the focus will be on cooking. The children will begin by planning and designing their own cupcakes before moving on to baking them later in the half term.



Geography

In Geography, we will continue our focus on coasts. The children will be learning about coastal management, how coastlines change over time, and the impact of tourism on seaside environments. As part of this unit, we will be visiting a seaside town to carry out fieldwork and collect information first-hand—and we hope to enjoy an ice cream while we're there too!

PSHE

In PSHE, our theme is "Healthy Me." The children will be learning how friendship groups form, how they fit within these groups, and which friendships they value most. They will explore the roles of leaders and followers and reflect on the part they play in different situations. We will also look at healthy eating, recognising feelings such as anxiety or fear that may arise from peer pressure, and developing strategies to feel confident, assertive, and safe when making decisions.

Religion and Worldviews

In Religion and Worldviews, the children will be studying Judaism. They will learn who Jewish people are and where they live, their key beliefs, their special places, important festivals throughout the year, their holy book, and the symbols that are central to their faith and identity.

Computing

Our focus is Programming using Logo. Children will learn how to use numbers and codes to instruct the turtle to create shapes—Logo doesn't understand words, so precise coding is key!

Music

This term, Year 4 will continue to learn the recorder, while Year 3 will explore a variety of instruments, including glockenspiels and chime bars.

PE

Swimming will take place for Year 4 in the first half of the term. In school, children will also learn dance and hockey.

French

Colours

Through phonics activities, children are introduced to simple adjectives (colours) and explore noun/adjective order and how it differs to English.

They practise saying what their favourite colour is and ask others what their favourite colour is.

New vocabulary is used to create a mini book, containing a simple retelling of the Ours Brun (Brown Bear) story.

General Reminders

- **PE Days:** Monday and Thursdays – please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit and that Year 4 have swimming kits for Monday afternoons.
- **School Houses: Barrington (Blue), Hestercombe (Red), Lytes Cary (Yellow), Montacute (Green).**
- **Hair:** Long hair must be tied back for safety and hygiene.
- **Snacks & Water:** Children may bring a healthy snack (fruit or veg) for break and should have a water bottle to refill during the day.
- **Weather:** Please make sure your child has a waterproof coat and, if necessary, gloves and a warm hat.



- **Homework:**
 - **Times Tables:** Regular practice is expected.
 - **Reading:** Daily reading at home
 - **Year 4:** Additional times tables homework to prepare for the MTC. **Homework books to be handed in on a Monday will be returned the same day with new homework.**
- **Logins:** All website/app login details are stuck inside reading records.

Spelling:

We have a new spelling scheme in place this half term. Year 4 will be taught spelling daily by Miss Dunn, and Year 3 will be taught daily by Mr Hakim. With this new approach, the children will no longer receive a weekly list of spellings for a traditional spelling test. Instead, words from the Year 3 and 4 statutory word list will be uploaded to **Spelling Frame**, where the children can practise little and often, both at home and in school.

Reading

I'd also like to take a moment to emphasise just how important regular reading is for the children. Reading plays such a powerful role in developing their English skills — it helps to build imagination, strengthen creativity, and broaden vocabulary, all of which have a huge impact on their writing and overall confidence in the subject. The more children read, the more these skills transfer naturally into their spoken language, understanding, and written work in class. I would be incredibly grateful if you could continue to read with your child as often as possible at home and record this in their reading record. Even a few minutes each day makes a noticeable difference, and your support truly helps them to flourish.

- **Reading records must be handed in on Friday morning where they will be checked and the weekly amount of reading will be recorded to earn a chance to be in the Reading Café with Mrs Chapple at the end of the half term.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me via the school office or catch me at the start/end of the day.

Best wishes,

Mr Hakim
Class Teacher

