

Whitstable Junior School



Term 3 Curriculum Information 2019 for parents in Year 4



Happy New Year from Mrs Migden, Mrs Kerr, Mrs Lay, Mrs Browning and Mr Seppala, who all join in sending you a warm welcome back to Term 3.

We hope you and your children have had a wonderful Christmas and feel well rested and revived ready for an exciting term ahead.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to ask us or any member of staff on the gate in the morning.



What are we learning about this term?



Key Areas covered this term in Maths:

We will begin the term by revisiting place value and working on the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) of whole numbers and then apply them to real life problems. The children will also be investigating numbers into the thousands and working across the decimal point.

As the term progresses, we will undertake fascinating scaling activities linked to our term topic and will learn how to find and set co-ordinates.

Times-tables:

The children have now had lots of opportunity in school to practice their times tables using our new amazing Times Tables Rockstars online platform. If possible, please continue to allow them access to this fantastic resource at home. They love the challenge and competition of moving up levels and collecting coins. If your child finds it difficult to gain access to a computer, please let their teacher know and they will endeavour to find time during school.

We will continue to **check times tables knowledge every Tuesday** with a two minute test.



Key Areas covered this term in English:

Our English lessons will follow the theme of the Shang Dynasty of Ancient China this term. The children will become archaeologists investigating fascinating artefacts and documentary evidence in order to answer questions about this distant civilisation. Their work will culminate in a non-chronological report. Towards the end of the term, writing will focus on narrative and expressive skills with descriptions of mind-blowing battles and exploits leading to the fall of the Shang Empire.

We will be using our cute Reading Dogs to exercise the children's inference skills in weekly reading and comprehension lessons.



Reading at home:

Please continue to share a book with your child as regularly as possible and **remember to sign their bookmark.**

Spellings:

We will also be introducing our *new* Spelling system, whereby children will be set spellings on a weekly basis. The new rule will be introduced on a Monday, with a set of spellings sent home to learn, ready for a test on Friday. They will also have a log-in to access the 'Spelling Shed' – a new online platform for learning the spellings that have been set.





The Shang Dynasty, Science, Art and French:



As detailed above, the children will be learning about the mighty Shang Dynasty, who ruled much of China over 3000 years ago. They will look at timelines to secure an understanding of when events occurred in relation to others, investigate the tomb of the famous Lady Fu Hao and debate the use of weird and wonderful artefacts found therein. We will look at Chinese writing and how it differs to Western writing and decipher the characters used to depict words. The term will end with a Chinese feast in which the children will have the opportunity to taste green tea, sample noodles and use chopsticks! Yummy!

In Art, we will be continuing with our exciting Explore journals in collaboration with the Turner Gallery and will be investigating the art of photography and the work of Patrick Heron. We will also experiment with Chinese brush technique to link with our topic. In addition to this, we will begin a new area of vocabulary in French entitled Mon Anniversaire.

In Science, we are covering Human Nutrition which looks at the digestive system, the impact of the food we eat and the importance of looking after our teeth: their health and uses.



PHSE:

In our lessons this term, we will be discussing the importance of personal hygiene and who is responsible for our health and well-being. We will also encourage talk on forming and maintaining healthy relationships and how to manage complex emotions and changes as we become older. If you have any questions about our PSHE content please do not hesitate to ask.

A new term provides another opportunity for the children to take part in our Citizenship Award by gathering evidence of how they are being Trustworthy and Responsible.



Important Information

Here are a few extra pieces of useful information that we would like to share with you:

- Children are encouraged to bring a **healthy snack** for break time; this can be a piece of fruit or a cereal bar. If you prefer, the children can **purchase a fruit token** from their teacher in the morning for **40p** and spend it at the fruit café at break.
- **PE kits should be in school every day** due to weather constraints and occasional changes in timetable.
- **Homework for Literacy, Maths and Topic will be sent out on a Wednesday to be returned the next Monday.**
- Topic homework is based on a points system; we encourage the children to select their own activity each week to complete with the aim of achieving 30points or more over the term. (see copy attached) **If there are any difficulties with homework or children are struggling, Mrs Browning runs a homework club during lunchtime on a Thursday.** Everyone is welcome and she will be there to support if needed.

Thank you for your support.

Dates for the diary:

Thursday 3rd January – First day back to school

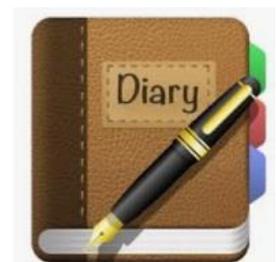
Wednesday 9th – Swimming starts.

Sunday 20th January – World Religion Day

Monday 21st January – Martin Luther King Day

Monday 28th January to Friday 1st February – National Story-Telling week.

Friday 8th February – Race-4-life for all and Valentines Disco in the evening.



Year 4 Topic Homework 2018-19: Term 3

Ancient China+The Shang Dynasty		2 Points	4 Points	6 Points	8 Points	10 Points
Learning Style  I enjoy: reading, writing, speaking and listening.	Find a picture of the Lama Temple and describe it in detail.	Write a diary entry for a day in the life of a climber scaling the Himalayas.	Read a Chinese myth and write a summary of the story.	Pick a city/region of China to research then write a letter home about your travels.	Write your own version of a Chinese myth.	
Parent Involvement I enjoy: working with numbers and being scientific.	Parent Involvement Find out how many characters there were in the terracotta army.	Parent Involvement Draw a detailed diagram to show all of the ways you insulate yourself (keep warm) during the winter.	Parent Involvement Investigate how long and how many people it took to build the Great Wall of China. https://www.timeanddate.com/calendar/chinese-zodiac-signs.html	Parent Involvement Find out which animal year each member of your family was born in using the Chinese zodiac. https://www.timeanddate.com/calendar/chinese-zodiac-signs.html	Parent Involvement Create a timeline to show some of the major events in China's history.	
Parent Involvement I enjoy: painting, drawing and visualising.	Parent Involvement Research an ancient Chinese artefact and draw it.	Parent Involvement Research an ancient Chinese artefact and paint it.	Parent Involvement Make a model of a giant panda (it doesn't have to be a giant model though) or a Chinese dragon.	Parent Involvement Create a collage showing a famous image of China e.g. the Great Wall/the Lama Temple.	Parent Involvement Create a model of a famous Chinese landmark or a Chinese artefact.	
Parent Involvement I enjoy: being active and doing hands on activities.	Parent Involvement Walk to school every day for a week.	Parent Involvement Join a sports club in or out of school.	Parent Involvement Go for a winter's walk and talk about how the plants and animals you see around may be different to in other seasons.	Parent Involvement Design and make a Chinese style paper lantern/kite.	Parent Involvement Help an adult make a Chinese recipe. https://www.kidspot.com.au/68-st-recipes/chinese-recipes-112.html	
Parent Involvement I enjoy: working with others.	Parent Involvement Help set the table for two meals in a week.	Parent Involvement Tidy your bedroom.	Parent Involvement Help a family member with a chore.	Parent Involvement Create a sports game with a friend. Write the rules into your book and add a diagram/picture of you playing it if you can.	Parent Involvement Work with a friend or family member to build a tower or wall (based on the Great Wall of China) out of junk/scrap material.	
Parent Involvement	Parent Involvement	Parent Involvement	Parent Involvement	Parent Involvement	Parent Involvement	

Week Beginning: 31 st Dec	Week Beginning: 7 th Jan	Week beginning: 14 th Jan	Week beginning: 21 st Jan	Week beginning: 28 th Jan