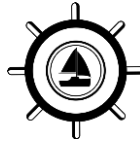


# Whitstable Junior School



## Term 1 Curriculum Information 2018 For parents in Year 4



Mrs Migden, Miss Oliver, Mrs Barden,  
Mrs Browning and Mr Seppala

join in welcoming you and your children to Year 4.

We are all looking forward to the year ahead which is jam-packed with exciting learning opportunities and creative experiences to lend depth and relevance to the curriculum.

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:

The greater part of the term will involve work on the four operations (**addition, subtraction, multiplication and division**). We will be using the **column method** to calculate addition and subtraction and will spend time ensuring the children understand how to **carry and exchange**. For **multiplication and division**, we focus on **3 digit by 1 digit numbers using column and bus stop methods**. The week's work will culminate in problem solving activities. In the final week we take a look at **2D and 3D shapes, investigating their properties and learning key vocabulary**.

### Timestables:

We are continuing to secure knowledge of times tables and inverse division facts in Year 4. We will be **checking these every Tuesday** and would greatly appreciate your help in practicing them with your child. They will be aware of the x-table they are working on.

### Key Areas covered this term in English:

Throughout the year, we link our Topic theme with English and this term takes us on a journey along 'Rivers'. First, we take an in-depth look at **the journey of a river using Meredith Cooper's beautiful River Story as inspiration for writing to entertain**. We then 'evaporate' into the clouds with **the Pixar film 'Partly Cloudy'** which provides a focal point for writing dialogue.

### Reading at home:

We love reading in Year 4 and have regular story times and shared reading. We aim to instil children with a **lifetime love of reading both actively and passively**. We therefore recommend that you share a book with your child on a daily basis and **remember to sign their bookmark** as they are hugely proud when able to share their reading achievements.

### Spellings:

**Children will also be sent out a list of spellings to learn** over the term for weekly spelling tests. The spellings comprise of words that follow a spelling rule and the Year 3/4 National Curriculum spellings.



## Rivers, Changing States, Art, French and PE:

During term 1, the children will be **learning all about rivers**; where the water comes from to create them, their features, how they form an integral part of our everyday lives and precautions taken to prevent flooding. Weather permitting; we will weave in many opportunities for outdoor learning in the local environment.

In their science lessons, children will be looking at **materials and their states**, investigating how these states might be **changed through heat or cold**. We will make water cycles in a bag, freeze poor little Lego men and run races with salad cream and honey!

The children will be developing their co-ordination and fitness through dance, gym and team games in their PE lessons.

Furthermore they will be learning **French language through games**, quizzes, role play and short animations - covering animals, birthdays and discussing the weather and where we live.

### PHSE:

At WJS, we have 6 main values: **Respect, Fairness, Trust, Responsibility, Determination and Caring**. Our PHSE focus for the first term will be respect. They will learn through circle time, stories, direct teaching and peer work the importance of diversity, being a good friend, how we grow and change and how we can keep safe in our local area.



**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 30 points or more over the term. **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.

### Dates for the diary:

- Roald Dahl Day 2018 - Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September
- Meet the teacher - Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September (3:15-3:45)
- Class Photos - Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September
- Jeans for Genes Day - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September
- Parent Consultations - Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October - 1:30 onwards