

Les Landes School

Rue des Cosnets
St Ouen
Jersey
JE3 2BJ



April 2024

Year 4

Dear Parents,

I hope that you all had a restful Easter break. The children worked so hard last term and they should be so proud of all that they achieved. I look forward to sharing the final part of their Year 4 learning journey with them in the months ahead.

English

This term, we will focus on inspirational people. We will read 'Shaping the World' by Liz Brownlee and we will use the biographies that we have written to inspire our own Shape poems. We will then read 'The Last Garden' by Rachel Ip and Anneli Bray and will write our own version extended narratives. We will also read a text called 'The Butterfly Lion' by Michael Morpurgo. We will explore the author's vocabulary choices and words and phrases that capture our interest and imagination. We will do some persuasive writing, identifying persuasive language and recognising how our style of writing should change according to the audience for which it is intended. We are working hard on improving our vocabulary choices in Year 4. Please ask your children to discuss some of the vocabulary that they are learning in school and focus on using the spellings each week to create sentences. This will make the words come to life for the children and it will be then much more likely that they will remember and use this vocabulary in their writing.

Maths

This term, we will revise the work covered so far and will continue to build on and develop these concepts and skills- understanding place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and fractions. We will begin by working more on understanding decimals and we will go on to focus on understanding geometry (shape, position and direction), measure (length, weight, capacity, time) and statistics (bar-charts, line graphs and pictograms). The children will be given ongoing opportunities to practise their reasoning and problem-solving skills and reflect on these. We shall continue to practise mental calculations regularly. At home, you could provide some extra support by talking with your children about the time. This could be getting them to read the clock, convert to the 24-hour clock or find out information from a timetable. You could ask them to solve simple questions based on TV schedules (i.e. how long a programme lasts.) This will be useful for all children, as the concept of time can be particularly challenging.

Computing

In computing lessons, we will focus on audio-recording. They will identify input and output devices required to work with sound digitally and will make their own audio recordings. We will also learn about data logging. They will consider the senses that humans use to experience the environment and how computers can use special input devices called sensors to monitor the environment. They will collect data as well as access data captured over long periods of time.

Other Subjects

Mrs Searson will teach our science units this term. Our Science topic will be 'States of Matter'. The children will be setting up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests. They will be encouraged to make careful observations and take accurate measurements using a range of equipment.

Headteacher: Vicki Charlesworth MA (Cert.Ed) NPQH
Deputy Headteacher: Laura Webster BA (Hons) NPQSL

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Government of Jersey



In the second half of term, we will be learning about sound in Science. The children will investigate how sound is formed and how variations in pitch and volume occur. Again, we will continue to develop enquiry skills, encouraging the children to ask relevant questions and to set up investigations to test predictions.

Our topic-work will have a geography focus. We will look at where certain countries of the world are located, and some of the ways geographers describe locations. We will learn to locate and describe places using longitude and latitude and find out about some of the important lines that delineate specific areas of the Earth - the Equator, the Hemispheres, the Poles and the Tropics. We will learn about the Water Cycle and the way in which water is treated. We will also talk about the issue of water pollution and the responsibility that we have to protect our environment.

In RE lessons, we will be learning about and reflecting on the following topics:

- For Christians, when Jesus left, what was the impact of Pentecost?
- How and why do people mark the significant events of life?

Jèrriais

This term, we are participating in is a cross-curricular programme called "Alentou d'Jèrri." This programme is designed to teach children all about Jersey's history, geography, folklore and culture. The ten-week course will take place each Thursday. Children will learn about the history of the island, going right back to when Jersey first became an island, then on to the Neolithic period, the story of St Helier, right through to the cod fishing trade and much more. We will have opportunities to learn traditional Jersey games, songs and dances, as well as some basic Jèrriais phrases and vocabulary.

PE

PE lessons will be on a **Monday** and **Tuesday** this term. On Mondays, we will be swimming. Each week, the children must bring a swimming costume, a towel, a swimming cap and goggles. We will be travelling by coach and will be back before the end of the school day. On a Tuesday, we will focus on object control for the first half-term, and in our second half-term, we will focus on locomotive skills.

Homework

It is very important that the children start to develop good attitudes and practices towards homework. A little each night is much better than leaving it to the last minute.

Spellings –

New spellings are given on a Friday by Mrs Searson and they will be tested on a Friday. These should be practised in spelling books on four separate days.

Reading – Your child should continue to read nightly for 15 minutes. In Year 4, although they will have whole class/guided reading sessions as normal in school, they will not necessarily bring home reading material from these sessions. Therefore, children can read their library book or any material of their choice. Please ensure that you sign your child's reading record book each night to show what they have read. It will also help your child if you could discuss the books with them, asking them to summarise a chapter, explain the meanings of a few words or talk about changes in text type. You could ask them to explain a character's feelings/motives or what may happen next. This is important, as it will help your child to improve on and develop their comprehension skills.

Times Tables Practice: The expectation is that children will know all multiplication and division facts up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4, so children should practise these each night. This regular practice will give them the best chance of committing these to memory. I have asked the children to complete 32 games over the course of each week and I will check this on a Friday. The children can earn pebbles and Dojo points for completing their homework, so we would appreciate your support with this.

Our times table test is on a Friday and this term we will focus on testing all of the times tables each week.

Additional Information:

As it is the summer term, please ensure your child has a water bottle, sun hat and sun cream where appropriate.

Dates for the diary:

Ancient Greece Day: Wednesday 24th April

Scout Hut Overnight Stay: Thursday 16th-Friday 17th May (More information to follow)

Class Assembly: Wednesday 19th June (2.15pm)

Trip to Mont Orgueil Castle: Thursday 27th June

I hope that you find all of this information useful. As always, if you have any questions relating to anything mentioned in this letter or any other matter throughout the term, please don't hesitate contact me at the email address below.

Kind Regards,

Claire McMenamin

c.mcmamin@leslandes.sch.je