

# Class 4 News - April 2024

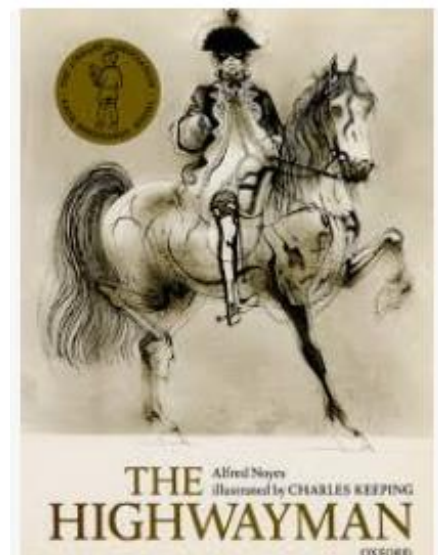
Welcome back! I hope everyone had a lovely Easter and were able to do some exciting things over the holiday. This term is going to be busy but hopefully we will also continue to have fun as we take part in a range of exciting events from outdoor and adventurous activities at Hardwick Park to our 'Colour Run'! I'm really looking forward to my first summer at Byers Green!

## English

In this term, we will be studying 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. This is an extended narrative poem with a ghostly twist! We will have the opportunity to explore the different themes in the poem and investigate the poetic devices that help to make it so effective. Following our analysis, we will be bringing the story up-to-date as we write our own ghost story based on the narrative. I'm sure the children will continue to impress me with their story writing as they are now experts in setting atmosphere and creating an appropriate sense of mystery. In addition, we will be doing some non-fiction writing as we learn how to create biographies for our own, imaginary, highwaymen or women.

## Spelling

Throughout the half term, children will continue to bring their weekly spellings home every Friday. The aim is for them to practise a little bit each day ready for our test the following week. Our spellings will continue to focus on the key rules outlined in the Year 5/6 National Curriculum. For each pattern, the children will complete tasks and investigations that will help them to gain a deeper understanding of the words and their meanings. Hopefully, this will give them the opportunity to master the words and commit them to long term memory. Your support to learn the spelling rule and practise the words is very much appreciated.



## Reading

As well as reading our class text, the children will continue to enjoy their own independent reading at various points throughout the school week. Because of this, it is important that your child has their books with them. These can be the books provided by the school (either a levelled book from the reading scheme, or if they have completed the reading scheme, a book of their choice) or they can be books from home. We will also be continuing with our daily fluency practice as this is proving to be very effective.

Although, the children are encouraged to read with increasing independence in Class 4, it is always helpful if they are able to practise reading aloud and/or have the opportunity to discuss what they have read. I would be very grateful for any support you could give with this at home. When they are ready to change their book, they can do so independently during registration.

## Maths

As in other terms, Class 4 will continue to revise their arithmetic and previously taught units through daily flashbacks and challenges. However, we will also be starting our work on statistics and measurement. We will explore these concepts in depth and complete a range of practical activities to help us remember the different units of measure before tackling more difficult problems and challenges. We will also be revising time, including the use of both digital and analogue clocks, and we will learn how to read a range of timetables. Children will continue to bring home Maths tasks that reflect what they have learned during the week. Throughout all units, the children will be given the opportunity to apply their knowledge in real life problems and explain their thought process.

## History/Geography

Towards the end of the half-term, we will be starting our topic on Ancient Baghdad and we will investigate the countries around the Arabian Peninsula. We will explore the physical and human characteristics of the area and speculate on the reasons why it was so important. In history we will learn about the 'round city' finding out who built it and why it was built. By looking at specific buildings and the people who worked and studied there, we will discover how the discoveries made during this time, impacted on our life today.



## Science

To begin our half-term, we will be continuing our topic on light. The focus will be on investigation as we explore the way in which shadows are made and how we can change the size of a shadow by changing the distance from the light source. We are also going to learn about the way in which white light can be broken into the different colours on the spectrum as we complete an enquiry into the ways in which we can create a rainbow.

## Art/Design Technology

Our focus for the Summer Term is going to be based on architecture. In art, we will learn how to create perspective drawings using both 2D and 3D points of view. We will also look at architecture in our own area and collect digital images of the buildings that we think are special. Linked to our topic, we will also explore the specific buildings that could be found in Ancient Baghdad.



## PE

Our PE sessions will continue to be on a Tuesday afternoon where the focus will be athletics. We will learn the key skills required for the main athletic disciplines of running, throwing and jumping. Depending on the weather, these could be indoor or outdoor sessions. For these lessons children should come to school wearing appropriate outdoor clothing. Our second PE session will be on a Friday morning and the focus will be tag-rugby. For this lesson, children will have a coach who will teach them the skills required to be successful in the game and the rules needed to take part in small sided competitive sessions. Once again, the children will need to come to school wearing their PE kit which comprises of plain navy joggers, plain white T-shirts, plain navy hoody/sweater and appropriate trainers. Please ensure that the children are wearing the appropriate kit! Please can all jewellery be removed (preferably at home) to prevent injury, loss or damage.

## Computing

To start our summer term the children will be starting to work with micro-bits. This practical side of computing will focus on how to use the hardware and the programming required in order to use micro-bits for a specific purpose. For this term, our computing lessons will be taken by Mrs Mowbray who is our computing leader.



## PSHCE

Our topic this term is all about our dreams and aspirations for the future. Throughout the unit, we will explore what it means to have ambitions, discuss what we want to achieve in the future and think about the steps we need to get there. We will also explore future careers and investigate the World of Work!

## Other Lessons

Miss Forth will continue to be covering class on a Monday afternoon and Wednesday morning. She will be delivering RE, Spanish and Music. In RE, the children will be learning about traditions and rituals in a range of faiths and will continue to reflect on one of our British Values - tolerance of those with different faiths - as we investigate why these are so important in different cultures and communities.

In Spanish, the children will learn all about keeping healthy particularly through diet and exercise. They will find out how to talk about the things that they do to maintain an active life-style.

In Music, the children are going to explore ways in which music can have a direct impact on our lives as they investigate the lyrics and melodies of some well-known songs. They will also have the opportunity to discuss music that is important to them.



## Homework

Homework will continue to be set on a Friday and is due to be handed in the following Thursday. This gives the children the opportunity to ask for help on a Monday or Tuesday should they need it. I appreciate your support in this and hope to work alongside you in encouraging the children to take responsibility for completing and returning homework. If you, or your child, have any questions about the homework please do not hesitate to ask!

## YEAR 6 CHILDREN AND PARENTS

This term, I will be continuing our SAT booster breakfast club for the Year 6 pupils on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning from 8am. It has been really positive so far and it has been lovely to see how enthusiastic the children are. Thank you for your continued support for these sessions.

**SATS week will begin on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May.**

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May - Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May - Reading

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May - Arithmetic and Reasoning Paper 1

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May - Arithmetic Paper 2

The children have been working incredibly hard and can be very proud of the progress they have already made. I know that they are all really prepared for SAT week and that they will undoubtedly give it their best, which is all we can ask of them. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the children for their positive attitude and hard work so far this year!

If you have any questions or concerns about SAT week please ask.

Thank you for reading the Class 4 newsletter. If you have any other questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch. I am always happy to help.

Kind regards,

Mrs King