



Heathcoat Primary School

Year 3 and 4 Spring Term Newsletter

January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to a new term! We hope that you have all had a really relaxing and enjoyable break. Here are the exciting new topics that the children will be exploring in Year 3 and 4 this term.

Spring Term 2024		
Subject	1st half term	2nd half term
English	<p style="text-align: center;">The Snowman (Fiction)</p> <p>The children will learn about past simple and past progressive tenses. They will explore the use of commas in lists and paragraphing their ideas.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lord of the Forest (Fiction)</p> <p>The children will use the pattern of the story to write their own. They will learn to make strong verb choices and maintain the correct tense.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Beach comber (Poetry)</p> <p>The children will write in the form of a free verse poem, organised into regular stanzas. They will describe a series of objects that are linked in some way.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Beyond the Stars – King of the Birds (Fiction)</p> <p>The children will write a story in paragraphs that shows how someone becomes a king through a clever idea. They will use expanded noun phrases to add detail and create atmosphere.</p>
Mathematics Year 3	<p>Right Angles The children will learn about angles and how to identify right angles including right angles in a shape.</p> <p>Additive Reasoning The children will be adding to their knowledge of addition and subtraction using 3-digit numbers. They will be practicing appropriate strategies to work out problems.</p>	<p>Column Addition The children will learn how to add 2-digit numbers using knowledge of place value to correctly layout their calculations.</p> <p>2, 4, 8 Times tables. The children will practise counting in 2s and then learn to count in 4s and 8s observing the patterns and solving problems using knowledge of the 4 and 8 times tables.</p>
Mathematics Year 4	<p>7 times table The children will learn to count in 7's and solve problems involving the 7 times tables.</p> <p>Understanding and manipulating multiplicative relationships The children will learn to multiply and divide numbers by 10 and 100 and use this to help solve problems.</p>	<p>Coordinates The children will plot and locate points and coordinates on a grid. They will use this to help draw 2D shapes in a given position.</p> <p>Review of fractions The children will identify equal and unequal parts that make up a whole and explain the size of the parts in relationship to the whole.</p>



Science	<p>Electricity</p> <p>The children will learn about common electrical appliances and how to construct simple series circuits. They will become familiar with the key words linked to the topic and how to apply them appropriately.</p>	<p>Living things and their habitats.</p> <p>The children will learn to classify animals using different criteria. They will also look at the different habitats and environments where animals can be found.</p>
PE	<p>Real PE</p> <p>The children will learn a range of dynamic balances on a line and develop their coordination and ball skills.</p> <p>Real Dance</p> <p>The children will learn to develop their shape work, artistry and musicality to develop their own dance routine.</p> <p>Swimming – 3/4CB</p> <p>The children will learn basic water safety and develop their confidence in the water.</p>	<p>Real PE</p> <p>The children will learn to develop their coordination when sending and receiving and to improve their balance with a partner.</p> <p>Short tennis</p> <p>The children will learn the rules and develop skills needed to play a game of short tennis.</p> <p>Orienteering</p> <p>The children will learn the basic skills to help them follow map directions from point to point.</p>
ICT	<p>Internet Safety Focus Celebrate Safer Internet Day</p> <p>The children will learn about internet safety and how they can keep themselves safe while working online.</p> <p>Computing systems and networks 2: Emailing</p> <p>The children will learn how to send and edit emails, add attachments and how to be a responsible digital citizen by thinking about the contents of what is sent.</p>	<p>Internet Safety Focus Lesson 3: Sharing of information</p> <p>The children will learn the importance of privacy settings and information sharing when using the internet.</p> <p>Computing systems and networks 3: Journey inside a computer</p> <p>The children will learn how a computer works, as well as identifying similarities and differences between various models of computers.</p>
DT		<p>Food: adapting a recipe</p> <p>The children work in groups to adapt a simple biscuit recipe, to create the tastiest biscuit. While making, they will also ensure that their creation comes within the given budget of overheads and costs of ingredients.</p>
History	<p>Who were the Anglo Saxons and how do we know what was important to them?</p> <p>The children will learn to use primary and secondary sources of information to find out about life during Anglo-Saxon Britain.</p>	
Geography		<p>Why do so many people live in megacities?</p> <p>The children will learn about settlement and urbanisation. Using a range of geographical</p>



		skills, they will explore different megacities around the world.
Music	Traditional instruments and improvisation: Around the world: India The children will listen to a range of rag and tal music, identifying traditional instruments as well as creating their own improvisations and performing as a class.	
Art	Painting The children will recap their learning of the colour wheel and colour mixing. They will also learn new techniques, such as, wet-on-wet and colour washes. They will use this to create landscapes of the school grounds.	
RE	Unit L2.8 What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today? [Dharma] The children will understand the terms dharma, Sanatan Dharma and Hinduism and say what they mean. They will also make links between Hindu practices and the idea that Hinduism is a whole 'way of life' (dharma).	Unit L2.5 Why do Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday'? [Salvation] Children will learn why Holy Week is important to Christians and how it is celebrated on different days within the church. This will include learning why 'Good Friday' is called 'good'.
PSHE	Dreams and Goals The children will talk about their hopes and dreams and discuss feelings of disappointment. They will reflect on their successes and the feelings associated with overcoming a challenge.	Healthy Me The children will learn about different aspects that are required to keep us healthy, including a healthy lifestyle and having healthy friendships.

Trips / visits:	Forest School 3/4 MP Friday 5 th January, Friday 12 th January, Friday 19 th January Forest School 3/4 CP Friday 26 th January, Friday 2 nd February, Friday 9 th February	Forest School 3/4 CB Friday 23 rd February, Friday 1 st March, Friday 8 th March
Dates for your diary:	Monday 29 th January Y4 Bikeability Friday 2 nd February NSPCC Number Day Tuesday 6 th February Safer Internet Day Half Term Monday 12 th February – Friday 16 th	Thursday 7 th March World Book Day Thursday 21 st March Reports out Monday 25 th March Parents Evening Tuesday 26 th March Easter Bonnet Competition Wednesday 27 th March Parents Evening End of term Thursday 28 th March



READING: As you know, it is really important that children complete repeat reading of their books. This is because on each read they are gaining a different skill:

- decoding,
- understanding
- fluency.

Please help your child to become super readers by hearing them read **at least 3 times each week**. Remember – the more we practise things, the better we get!

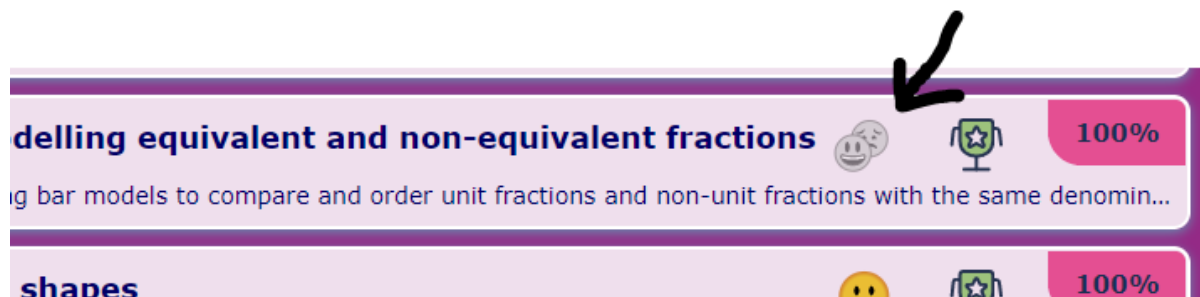
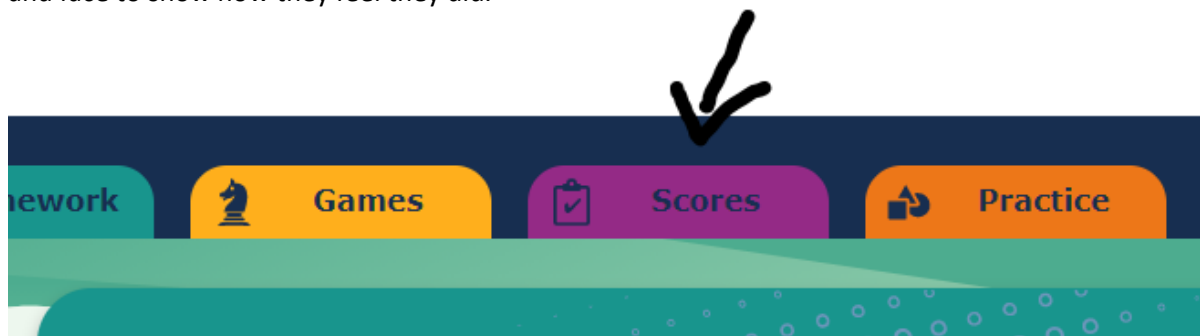
Please record information about their reading in their reading record book. Please remember to ask your child questions about what they have read or to summarise/explain what they have read to check their understanding.

Here are some questions that you could ask when they read:

- **Tell me about what you have just read (summarise).** Can they clearly explain to you what has just happened?
- **Which words do you not understand?** Ask them to try to work out what the word means from the rest of the sentence. Then look up the word on a computer/tablet or in a dictionary.

Homework: Maths homework will be set each week on a Friday via Google Classrooms. This is to be completed and handed in online by Wednesday.

It is important for children to complete the **lesson** and **practise** tasks **as well as** the **homework** section. This enables them to reinforce learning and see fun graphics which explain topics. Lots of these lessons are fun games that you can play together. The games help to remind children of efficient ways of working and will also show you how the maths topic is being taught. When they finish their homework, your child can rate how well they did – e.g. did they feel a bit unsure? Did they totally understand it? Click on the tab marked SCORE and then the relevant statement and face to show how they feel they did.



Useful websites:

Topmarks	fun maths games	https://www.topmarks.co.uk/
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TTRockstars and NumBots	Times table and number bond practise.	<u>Times Tables Rock Stars – Times Tables Rock Stars (trockstars.com)</u>
Scratch	a fun coding ICT site where children can create their own animations	<u>https://scratch.mit.edu/</u>

You can help your child at home by using the above websites and encouraging them to learn through play.

Remember that if you aren't a member already, the local library in town is free to join and is a great place to visit with your children so they can do research or borrow books to read at home.

PE: Our PE days are Monday and Friday for Mr Payne and Miss Pearson's class and Thursday and Friday (swimming) for Mr Cantrill and Miss Lavin's class. Children should come to school wearing their school PE kit on these days. This includes a white PE shirt or t-shirt in their house colour, plus their school jumper. They must wear sensible trainers. Earrings must be removed or covered with tape for safety.

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to email us if you require any further guidance on our year group email: year3and4@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk

This will be checked twice a week. **If you need to get an important message to us urgently, please contact the office on 01884 252445 or email them on admin@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk**

We are looking forward to another exciting term of learning.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Pearson, Mr Payne, Mr Cantrill and Miss Lavin (Yr3/4 teachers)

Mrs Sullivan (KS2 Team leader and Assistant Head of School)