



Downside Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers of year 4 children,

Welcome back! I hope you all enjoyed a lovely Easter break. We are very much back into the swing of things in year 4 and would like to share our planned learning for this term. We would also like to provide you with a few reminders.

Firstly, thank you to those who ensure their children are here promptly at 8.55am as the register is taken at this time. We are also pleased to see the children arriving in smart school uniform, including black shoes. We would ask you to ensure children have school PE kits available in school on the days they have PE.

The children will receive a homework menu with a selection of tasks that are linked to our 'Romans' topic. The quality of previous 'menu' homework has been brilliant! We would like this to continue!

In literacy this term, the children will be studying historical narratives and will create their own narrative. They will also be writing information texts and studying poetry. The children will be taking part in guided reading and reading lessons to further develop their understanding of what they read. To support this learning, we ask you to listen to your child read as often as possible and to question their understanding of the text. Children will be continuing with reading lessons based on 'How to train your dragon' by Cressida Cowell. Thank you for your support so far with reading the text at home each week: it really does make a difference to the learning in class. Spellings taught in class are sent home and the children are tested weekly.

In numeracy, the children will be focusing on time, money, measure, fractions of number and mental arithmetic. To support your child in arithmetic, we ask that you continue practising the four operations with your child. Moreover, they will be consolidating and extending their knowledge of calculation and applying this to solve a range of mathematical problems. We would encourage you to test your child on their times tables and related division facts as the children really need to know these by the end of year 4.

Our topics this term are 'The Romans' and 'Mini Beasts'. Within the Romans topic, we will be exploring the extent of the Roman Empire and the legacy left in Britain. This learning will be consolidated through the children's visit to the Verulamium museum in St Albans.



For our science topic, the children will be studying mini beasts and their habitats and recognising that environments can change. They will also be learning about food chains and will construct some of these linked to the local environment. During science lessons in the first half of the term, they will be learning about flowering plants and the role of the flower in plant reproduction.

In ICT, children will be using the software Scratch to programme a Roman game.

The children in Oxford Circus and Marylebone will be continuing with swimming lessons. We ask that you ensure they have the correct swimming kit with them on their swimming day. Piccadilly Circus, Marble Arch and Baker Street will be learning how to play badminton. All year 4 children will be learning skills related to athletics.

In PSHE, the children will be learning about relationships.

Thank you for your continued support and positive feedback.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Khan
Year 4 Leader