



Downside Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss Karen Hooker

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Dear Parents and Carers of year 4 children,

Welcome back. I hope you had a good break and that the children are rested and eager to return to school.

We are really looking forward to this term and are excited about our topic which is based on the book 'The Last Wolf' by Michael Morpurgo. We will identify and compare the key places in the UK where the story takes place and investigate the actions of the characters and explore the dilemmas they face.

After half term, our topic will be The Islamic Golden Age where children will research the early expansion of Islamic rule. They will also learn about life in the Abbasid caliphate and delve into the history of Baghdad.

In Numeracy, we will be focusing on fractions and decimals. The children will learn to recognise tenths and hundredths both as fractions and decimals and will be dividing one and two digit numbers by ten and one hundred. We will also be writing, comparing, ordering and rounding decimals and developing our understanding of quarters and halves. In addition to this, we will be looking at money using our new understanding to order and round pounds and pence.

During the first half term, Science lessons will focus on comparing how things move on different surfaces. The children will explore what friction is and when it can be useful to us. After half term, the children will compare and group materials according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases.

In RE next half term, we will be learning how Muslims worship and the festivals that are important to them. Following this, we will be learning about Pentecost and the impact this has had on Christians.

In Spanish, the children will learn how to speak about members of the family. They will also practise following a short text and will learn about using vowels and consonants.

During music lessons, the children will continue to learn more chords on the ukulele and will be finding out about other stringed instruments.



As well as using computing throughout the curriculum, the children will contribute towards designing and creating an interactive class book.

For PE until half term, Marble Arch and Piccadilly Circus will continue to go swimming and all classes will learn the skills required to play hockey. Marylebone, Baker Street and Oxford Circus will also be taking part in gymnastics. After half term, Marylebone and Oxford Circus will go swimming while Marble Arch, Piccadilly Circus and Baker Street will add to their golf skills. Children from all classes will also take part in both individual and team based outdoor and adventurous activity challenges.

As you can see, this term is a busy one and we have much to teach the children. As always, we really value your support and in particular your encouragement of the children to help them complete their homework, learn their times tables and read regularly to a family member.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Dilkes
Year 4 Leader