

## **Topic & English**

Throughout the first half of the term our topic 'The Land of Fire and Ice' will enable children to focus on a geographical location further afield. This will be followed by our RE and drama driven topic 'It's Showtime!'. Both topics will be closely linked with English with exciting opportunities for reading and writing. Children will also have discrete lessons for learning grammar, punctuation and spelling.

In Spring 1, children will be writing the narrative to go with the song: I Lava You. They will write explanation texts linked with their volcano learning as well as tourist guides about Iceland. Using volcano eruptions as a stimulus, children will end the half term writing poems about volcanoes.

In Spring 2, children will be reading and writing play scripts. They will learn skills relating to stage directions within their writing and extend their speaking and listening skills when performing in the Easter Production.

## **Science**

Our science this term is all about sound. Children will learn about:

- How sound is made
- How sound travels to the ear
- What pitch is, and how it can be changed
- What happens to sound over different distances

They will apply their learning through music and singing in the Easter Production.

## **PSHE**

We will continue to use the Heartsmart resources to explore the High Five Heartsmart principles. Children will have time to reflect on the importance of hope and resilience and how 'No Way Through, Isn't True'.

## **Maths**

We will be covering the full range of mathematical skills across the term including number facts, calculation, geometry, decimals & fractions, measures and statistics. Our focus will be on developing fluency within addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Children will continue to develop their reasoning skills.

### **Times Tables**

*Pupils should be taught to recall multiplication and division facts up to 12 x 12  
(The National Curriculum)*

Please support your child to recall their times tables, working towards the St Mark's challenges. We have enjoyed celebrating their TTRockstars achievements so far in Year 4.

## **PE**

In PE, children will take part in swimming lessons. The aim of these lessons is to enable children to swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres, using a range of strokes.

In outdoor PE, children will apply a range of skills to football as well as continuing to take part in the Golden Mile.

In indoor PE, children will learn dances to perform in the Easter production and explore indoor athletics.

## **Music**

In music, children will be learning about how to make sounds with different everyday objects. Their learning will link with recycling and listening to music from different cultures. Children will learn songs to perform within the Easter Production.

### French

In French this term, children will develop their knowledge of the alphabet in French. They will learn about the French words for different animals and use the French alphabet to spell them.

French lessons will be very practical, involving lots of games and partner work.

### Art and D&T

In art, we will be using different printing techniques to recreate images of volcanoes. We will explore and study the work of Katsushika Hokusai, a Japanese artist.

In DT, we will be designing and making our own props for the Easter Production.

### Computing

This term, the children will be developing their digital media skills to create a stop-motion animation. They will explore the idea of animation through flicker books before developing their own sequences of animation.

### *And finally...*

Please continue to ensure your child brings with them to school every day:

- ✓ Green Reading Log
- ✓ Reading book
- ✓ Water bottle

We kindly ask that your child brings a school book bag or book bag sized bag with them to school; we simply do not have the storage space for larger bags.

Please help your child with their learning by encouraging them to practise their times tables, spellings and reading at home.

# Year 4 Newsletter Spring 2019

St. Mark's C E Primary School, Basingstoke



HAPPY NEW YEAR from the Year 4 team: Mrs Tunnicliffe, Mrs Happy and Miss Hardy. We hope that you enjoyed the Christmas break and your child is looking forward to the term ahead. Please feel free to come and see us if you have any questions or concerns.

Our Spring 1 topic is 'Land of Fire and Ice' where we will be learning all about volcanoes with specific reference to Iceland. In Spring 2, our topic will be 'It's Showtime!' in which we will be performing a special Easter Performance.

PE lessons will be swimming on Mondays & Wednesdays for the first 4 weeks. PE will then vary to allow for rehearsals so please ensure PE kits are in daily.

### RE

In RE this half term, we will be looking at the concept of the 'Devotion'. We will be describing the concept of devotion within the celebration of Maha Shivratri.

Homework will be sent home on a Friday in a yellow book. It should be returned to school by the following Wednesday.

In Spring 2 we will be looking at the concept of 'Ritual'. We will evaluate the importance of the ritual of the paschal candle by describing the value this ritual has to Christians.