

# Toftwood Junior School Information for Parents/Carers



Autumn 2  
2018

Year Four

## Year 4

### English

During Whole-Class Reading we will continue to read 'Romans on the Rampage' and the children will work on their prediction and inference skills, using clues in the text to support their answers.

In writing, the children will be writing their own endings to traditional stories and writing persuasively. When writing, the children will be encouraged to check their work against their differentiated success criteria to ensure they are producing the best work possible.

Here is some further information to explain causal conjunctions, fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases:

| Grammar focus         | Example sentence with focus area highlighted                  |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Causal conjunctions   | We come to school <u>so that</u> we can learn.                |
| Fronted Adverbials    | As the sun set, Jub darted through the forest.                |
| Expanded noun phrases | The wrinkly, gnarled witch peered into her bubbling cauldron. |

Please continue to focus on the statutory Year 3 and 4 spellings, which can be found in your child's homework book. These will not be tested weekly but the expectation is that the children will learn these and incorporate them into their work. We will be re-assessing these words towards the end of the term to monitor progress in securing these statutory spellings. Our spelling focus will change every two weeks. It is vital that your child practises these as often as possible until they spell them correctly in their independent writing. Please continue to read regularly with your child at home and remind them to bring their accelerated reading book to school every day.

The library is available for changing books before school 8.30 - 9.00, at lunchtimes 12.30 - 1.00 and after school 3.25 - 4.00. Children wishing to change their books during the lunch break put their book into the class box in the morning. Please ensure your child's reading record is in school every day. It will be checked on Mondays.

Only children are able to enter the school for before and after school library use and we ask that the Year 3 door is used for this.

## **Mathematics**

In maths we will be continuing our work on addition and subtraction followed by measurement (length and perimeter) and multiplication and division.

Your child will be focussing on the following objectives:

- Subtract two 4-digit numbers
- Efficient subtraction, including mental strategies.
- Estimate answers
- Checking strategies
- Kilometres
- Perimeter on a grid
- Perimeter of a rectangle and rectilinear shapes
- Multiply by 10 and 100
- Divide by 10 and 100
- Multiply by 1 and 0
- Divide by 1

Please support your child and their maths learning through the use of My Maths and Rock Star Timestables. It is important that the children complete MyMaths tasks independently as we need to know what they can complete on their own. There are other areas of MyMaths where they can work alongside you, such as games and lessons.

## **Science**

This term our weekly focused Science lessons will focus on sound. The children will be: identifying how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating, recognising that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear, looking for patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it, looking for patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it, recognising that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases.

Throughout this topic the children will be continuing to practice their skills of working scientifically; making predictions and careful observations, setting up a variety of investigations and recording their results so that they can answer questions using the evidence they have collected. Sound will be the focus of our voluntary home learning for this half term.

## **History**

Our work will continue to learn about the Roman Empire, with a focus on: Roman food and mosaics.

## **Design and Technology**

The children will be making cakes based on an authentic Roman recipe.

## **Art**

In their artwork, the children will be using collage to create a Roman mosaic. They will be thinking about colour in designing their image.

## **P.E.**

In P.E. this half term, the children will be working on hockey skills. They will also be taking part in Real P.E, which promotes the learning of basic skills and ensures P.E is exciting and challenging. Each half term focuses on a different challenge. This half term we are working on dynamic balances and sequences. Ask your child what FUNS level they are working on and what the skill is that they need to develop so that you can help them with this at home.

### **PE days are as follows:**

|                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Mrs Bowes-Mulligan | Wednesday and Thursday |
| Dr Francis         | Tuesday and Thursday   |
| Mrs Traferri       | Monday and Friday      |

Please ensure your child brings their PE kit **in on a Monday** and takes it **home on a Friday** to be washed if required. Ear rings should be **removed** for PE and hair **tied back**.

## **R.E.**

In RE, the children will be focusing on Christianity. We will be considering God and Incarnation and discussing 'What is the Trinity?' You could ask your child for their thoughts or ideas around this at home and ask them to explain their thinking and their reasons.

## **Music.**

We will be beginning to play recorders and increasing our accuracy in performance. During this unit, the children will learn that music is written down in staff notation, know how to draw a treble clef and how it identifies 'G' on the staff. know the position of notes on the treble clef staff (stave) and begin to understand note value. If you listen to music in the car or at home, then challenge your child to give their opinion on that piece of music or a favourite piece of music.

## **Computing**

Children will continue to work on their keyboarding and online researching skills. They will continue to develop their understanding of how computers work in

relation to how they process instructions and commands. Using computer software, the children will write and debug their own algorithms.

### **Website**

If you have a computer connected to the internet, you may wish to visit our website.

The address is: [www.toftwood.norfolk.sch.uk](http://www.toftwood.norfolk.sch.uk)

### **PSHE and PATHS**

In Paths the children will be looking at their own feelings, playing by the rules, solving important problems, avoiding gossip, being unique and cooperating effectively with others.

### **MFL**

We are continuing to learn Spanish. This half term we will be focusing on phonics and investigating Spanish speaking countries around the world. The children will be able to hold simple conversations.

### **Home Learning**

We continue to ask that you support your child and their learning at home. We also appreciate that children have other interests and hobbies outside of school and family time is precious. To support your child, we will have our core set of homework for all children on MyMaths, Rock Star Times tables, spellings and reading, and there will be optional creative home learning for those children that wish to complete it.

### **MyMaths**

There is an expectation that children will complete set homework tasks within the allocated time given. The date MyMaths work is due is shared on the MyMaths site.

### **Reading**

To support your child with becoming a confident reader we would like each child to read to an adult at least three times every week. Please also ensure you are asking those questions to develop your child's skills and abilities as a reader. Please write a note in your child's reading record, which will be checked by their teacher every Monday for the previous week. Please ensure reading records are in school every day. Children who have read at home will be awarded dojo points: one point for reading three times, two points for reading five times and three points for reading seven times.

## **Spellings**

Each child has a list of statutory spellings they need to practise at home. Please support your child as they learn these. Once a fortnight we will also send home a list of the spelling pattern words. These will not be tested but the expectation is that your child will apply the patterns in their learning. Writing these words accurately in a sentence moves their learning forwards as being able to use the spellings in their work is very important. Any help you can give your child with their spellings will be a great help.

## **Additional Optional Home Learning**

There will also be optional extra homework linked to Sound. Information will be sent home with your child and posted on the website. This should be submitted by Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Children will be awarded Dojo points for any additional home learning they complete.