



**Brampton Village Primary School,
Brampton, Huntingdon,
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Headteacher: Mr Peter Allen
Year 4 Spring Term Curriculum Letter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your support during the autumn term. We hope you had a fantastic Christmas break and look forward to working with you again in 2018.

Topic Focus	Passport to Europe
Subject	Main Learning Focus
English/Literacy	This term, we will be using a variety of texts to support our learning. We will particularly focus on The Firebird and Oliver and the Seawigs. We will write in a range of genres and have a variety of opportunities for speaking and listening. We will also be developing our understanding of grammar and sentence structure.
Maths	This term, we will be developing our understanding of multiplication including multiplying by 1, 0 and multiplying 3 numbers mentally. By the end of the year, it is expected that children can recall all multiplication and division facts up to 12 x 12. We will also be developing our understanding of written methods for multiplication and division. We will then be learning about fractions including addition, subtraction and identifying equivalent fractions.
Science	Our topic for the first half term is states of matter. Children will investigate solids, liquids and gases and changes of state. We will be developing our investigative skills and planning and carrying out simple fair tests. In the second half term, we will be learning about animals including humans.
RE	Children will have the opportunity to learn about Christianity. The areas covered will include God as a creator alongside the Creation story and why Christians pray. Next half term we will have the focus on the church, looking at individual features and what makes churches different to each other as well as learning the history of the church.
Computing	During this term, we will revisit the topic of e-safety. Children will be reminded of the importance of keeping themselves safe in the digital world. They will also be exploring STARZ as a tool for communication. They will also be using 'Ace Town' as a programming tool.
PSHE	During this half term, children will be learning about risk. They will learn about different types of risk and how to manage risk. Next half term, we will be learning about different types of drugs and how to keep ourselves safe.
Art and DT	In art, we will be learning about the colour wheel and colour mixing. We will apply these skills to create our own firebird feathers. In DT, we will be learning how to cook healthy Italian food.
Geography	In geography, we will be developing our map skills. Children will use an Atlas to locate and name cities and counties in the UK. In addition, they will learn to locate and name countries and capital cities in Europe.
Music	As musicians we will use handchimes and chime bars to play pieces of music using standard notation. We will discuss and use chords to accompany the melody and will discuss how each piece is structured. We will record this, discuss our performance and make changes to improve our piece of music.
PE	Indoor PE in Spring 1 will be gymnastics and outdoor PE will be golf. During Spring 1, Mrs Hammond will be having a class swap with Miss Lee on Tuesday afternoons, therefore, gymnastics lessons will be taught by Miss Lee, not Mrs Hammond. Indoor PE in Spring 2 will be dance and outdoor PE will be netball.
MFL	This term, children will continue to learn Spanish. They will revise words and phrases taught so far. In addition, we will be how to pronounce the names of a variety of animals and use adjectives to describe them.
Visits	<u>Spring term</u> Grafham residential trip - Monday 26 th March - Wed 28 th March Italian food tasting - Huntingdon or in school (to be confirmed)

Important Dates

Date	Event
3 rd February	Cake Friday
7 th February	Parent consultation meetings 3:30- 7
8 th February	Parent consultation meetings 3:30- 6
12 th - 16 th February	Half term
19 th February	Back to school
27 th February	3 /4 concert 6 pm
28 th February	3 /4 concert 2 pm
1 st March	World Book Day
26 th March- 28 th March	Grafham residential
29 th March	Last day of term

Homework

Homework Club takes place every Monday and Tuesday lunchtimes. All children are welcome to attend this club. If you would like your child to be reminded to attend homework club, please send a message into your child's class teacher.

Learning Log

Children will be set an open ended task every two weeks (approximately). Children will be given the opportunity to share their learning with their friends in class.

We were really impressed with the quality of the homework that the children completed last year. It was lovely to see the different and creative ways that the children tackled the tasks.

Due in	Sent home
	12 th January 2018
24 th January 2018	26 th January 2018
7 th February 2018	
Half term	
	23 rd February 2018
7 th March 2018	9 th March 2018
21 st March 2018	

Spellings

At the end of last term, we completed a second spelling test of the first 40 words from the national curriculum word list for Years 1/2 and Years 3/4. Most children worked really hard to learn these words and made great progress. We will be sending the results of these tests home shortly along with the results from the second set of words. We will continue to spend time in class learning these words, but it would reinforce the children's understanding if they had the opportunity to work on these at home. We will repeat the spelling test at the end of the Spring term and will resend your child's results home (so you can see how much progress they have made ☺).

Times Tables

By the end of Year 4, it is expected that children will be able to recall multiplication facts and division facts for all times tables up to 12 x 12. To support their learning in class, we will continue to send times table homework home each week. If your child knows the time table that they have been given for the week, the aim will be to increase the speed and fluency that they can complete the tasks. Some weeks children will be given times tables to learn and other weeks, they will be given times tables tests to check their progress and understanding.

PE Days/Kits

PE for Year 4 will be on a Tuesday, but please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school every day as this allows us to be flexible and to embed these skills across the curriculum.

Inside PE - a white t-shirt, dark shorts, trainers or plimsolls.

Outside PE - trainers, a white t-shirt, dark shorts, a sweatshirt and jogging bottoms as it can get very cold in the Spring term. No jewellery except stud earrings and watches should be worn in school and these must be removed for all PE activities. If your child is unable to remove their own earrings, please provide tape for them to tape them up. Long hair should be tied back.

Parental Help

In the Autumn term, we were extremely lucky to have so much parental help and support. If you or a close family member are able to offer regular or occasional help this year, please speak to your child's class teacher. We are particularly looking for individuals that are happy to read on a 1:1 basis with children.

Reading

Children will be continuing to use Accelerated Reader (AR). This is an online system where children take quizzes on the books that they have read. Children will be given AR targets to try and meet. When they reach these targets, they will be given a certificate and can help their class to earn rewards. New targets will then be set again in the Spring Term. Children will be given plenty of opportunity to complete the quizzes at school, so they are asked not to complete them at home. Even though children may wish to increasingly read independently now that they are in Year 4, we do still encourage you to read with your child. Children can of course read books that are not on the AR system, but if you would like to check whether books you have at home are part of AR you can use the following website or search for Accelerated Reader Book Find UK.

<http://www.arbookfind.co.uk/UserType.aspx>

If you would like more information about the AR system, please contact Mrs Hammond.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Sally Hammond and Miss Jessica Ross