

Year 4

Autumn 2 Newsletter 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the start of a new and exciting half term.

Our topic this half term focuses on the fantastical creatures of different countries and cultures. The children will explore and compare fantastical creature folklore from around the world. Within this topic, the children will use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries, explore the social, ethnic, cultural or religious diversity of past society and design and describe their own fantastical creature. Children are welcome to bring things from home, with your permission, that they would like to share relating to this topic.

Our class text for this half term is *The Spiderwick Chronicles*, a fantasy story which links beautifully to our topic. The children will analyse the structure, vocabulary and grammar that are key to fantasy texts. At the end of the unit the children will write the opening chapter for a sequel book as well as producing their own field guide of fantastical creatures. Their field guide will incorporate pop-ups and moving parts that will require the children to use a variety of skills such as cutting, shaping, joining and finishing accurately.

Thank you for helping your child learn last half term's spellings. Spellings for this half term are listed below.

Autumn 2 Spellings

consider	continue	disappear	eighth
enough	experience	experiment	famous
favourite	February	guard	guide

The current Learning Log task was due in on Monday 6th November. The next learning log task will be sent home on **Friday 6th December** and should be returned by **Monday 8th January**.

In maths, we will be exploring measurement. We will begin by measuring lengths and calculating the perimeter of a rectilinear shape (including squares) in centimetres and metres. Children will also convert between different units of measure [for example, kilometre to metre].

Later in the half term, we will be working on multiplication and division skills using mental and written methods. This will involve counting in multiples of 6, 7 & 9 and becoming fluent in the multiplication and division facts for the 7 and 9 times tables. We will be linking our computing sessions to maths by using computer code to create a game that tests our times table knowledge. Learn by Heart targets will continue to be the basis of our maths homework. The relevant dates for these targets are listed below. Thank you for continuing to support your child with these learning targets.

<u>Book to be sent home from school</u>	<u>Book to be returned to school</u>
Friday 3rd November	Wednesday 15 th November
Friday 17 th November	Wednesday 30 th November
Friday 1 st December	Wednesday 13 th December

In Science we will be exploring electricity. The children will test and construct a simple electrical circuit, identify and name its basic parts, investigate what helps and hinders the flow of electricity and use what they have learnt to create an electrical Christmas surprise.

P.E. will continue to take place on Thursdays (indoors) and Fridays (outdoors) weather permitting. We would like to thank you for your support in ensuring children attend school in their P.E. kit on those days.

Our **Christmas party** will take place on **Monday 11th December**, more details will be available nearer the time.

On **Tuesday 12th December**, the Egyptian Gods that the children created last half term will be on display in the Hirstwood Nature Reserve for a special Christmas celebration evening. More details will follow nearer the time.

Thank you for your continued support.
Kind Regards,

Miss Jacklin, Mrs Morrow & the Year 4 Learning Team