

Year Four - Autumn Term Handout

Welcome to Year Four! We hope that you had a wonderful summer and are ready for the year ahead. Our Year Four team is Mr Keise, Debbie and Yasmine and we are all looking forward to teaching your children this academic year.

This handout provides an overview of our coverage and focus this term, as well as expectations of behaviour. You can find the curriculum map for the whole year on the school website. Information about homework can be found on the accompanying Homework Overview grid and a child-friendly version is available in the front of the homework book, which children will be given next week.

Please take some time to read through the information provided and ask Mr Keise, Debbie or Yasmine if you have any questions.

Reading

Each week your child will be read with in guided reading lessons. During these lessons, they will have the opportunity to read aloud, to answer questions that focus on each of the KS2 reading skills and to discuss the text with the adults and peers in their class. For guided reading lessons this half-term we will be using the book *The Humans*. They will develop their skills of retrieval, inference, summarising and comparing to complete activities, as well as asking and answering questions and debating important points like 'what really have been the greatest inventions of all time?'

Our library visit will take place on **Wednesday** so please ensure that, if your child borrows a library book, they have it in school on this day to be renewed or returned. If your child forgets or misplaces their book, we are unable to assign them another until it is either returned or replaced.

Writing

At Boutcher we use a book-based approach to the teaching of our writing curriculum. Throughout the year children will be exposed to a range of fiction and non-fiction texts. We have started reading the book *Escape From Pompeii* which is about a fictional story set against the factual event of Mount Vesuvius erupting. Throughout this unit of work, children will complete a range of different writing outcomes, each of which will focus on different grammar, punctuation and spelling skills. In the final part of the sequence of learning, children will become journalists and write a newspaper article to report on the eruption, including quotes from survivors in the town.

Maths

At Boutcher we follow the Maths No Problem mastery programme of study. We have started the term learning about place value of numbers up to 10,000 and will shortly be moving on to addition and subtraction within 10,000. Children will continue to develop their mathematical fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills in lessons. Please find the Year Four Maths Methods Handbook on the Boutcher Website.

Children should continue to revise all their times tables daily as these are a key component of many mathematical concepts and will enable them to access the curriculum with increased speed and accuracy. Children in Year Four will sit a national times tables test in June.

Science

Our topic this half term is States of Matter. Children will learn about the differences between a solid, liquid and a gas and take part in practical activities and experiments to learn about their properties.

After half term the next topic in our science curriculum will be electricity. Children will learn about what electricity is and how it was discovered. They will identify which appliances use electricity in their homes and how to keep themselves safe. Children will construct circuits, start to create pictorial circuits and investigate how easily different types of switches can break and reconnect a circuit.

R.E

This term we will be learning about pilgrimages and why people go on them. We will also look at the differences between a sacred place and a special place and how we go on spiritual journeys throughout our lives.

Theme

Our theme for this term is The Romans. We will be looking at the start of the Roman Empire, how it spread and how it was challenged. We will also look at Roman culture, beliefs, architecture and leisure time.

PE

At Boutcher, we follow the 'Real PE' approach. Real PE is a unique, child-centred approach that engages and challenges children in their PE lessons. It focuses on the development of agility, balance and coordination, healthy competition and cooperative learning. Real PE focuses on six key cogs, these are: Creative, Cognitive, Health and Fitness, Personal, Physical and Social.

In the autumn term, we will be working through the 'Personal' cog in our weekly PE lessons.

Our PE day is: Thursday

On this day, children should come to school wearing PE kit and do not need school uniform.

PE kit is as follows:

- plain white t-shirt or polo top
- navy blue jogging bottoms, leggings or shorts (no logos)
- school navy blue jumper or cardigan
- suitable trainers for PE

PSHE

At Boutcher School, we teach Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) and relationships as a whole-school approach to underpin children's development as people and because we believe that this also supports their learning capacity. We use the Jigsaw Programme which offers us a comprehensive, carefully thought-through Scheme of Work which brings consistency and progression to our children's learning in this vital curriculum area. The Curriculum map can be found on the school

website. The first topic being covered across the school is: Being Me in My World. In this unit, children think about understanding their identity and how they fit into the class, the school and the global community.

Computing

We will use code.org to teach the computing curriculum. Each child will have their own login and will have one session weekly.

Music

Year Four will be learning drumming with a weekly lesson every Wednesday.

French

At Boutcher we will now be teaching French in our Modern Foreign Language lessons. French will be taught by Miss Simmons once a week and children will practise French throughout the week with their class teacher through daily greetings and classroom instructions.

Behaviour

Positive behaviours will be rewarded with Proud As Punch certificates, Headteacher's Awards or Family Points.

Breaking school rules will result in being placed on the Orange List.

Once on the Orange List is a warning and will result in the child missing 5 minutes of the following playtime.

Twice on and the child will sit away from the rest of the class where they will continue their work for 10 minutes. They will miss a further 5 minutes of the following playtime. At this point, the child will miss a total of 10 minutes of playtime so far that day.

Three times on and the child will be sent to another class to complete a behaviour reflection sheet. The child will miss an additional 10 minutes of playtime and must catch up with missed work. At this point, the child will have missed a total of 20 minutes of playtime. A letter will go home to inform you if this happens. In addition to the letter, you will be contacted to discuss this behaviour to prevent it occurring again.

Services

This year our theme is our school values; Faith, Family and Fascination. Throughout the Autumn term we will be looking at these values through events and people of faith in the Old Testament. We will look into Faith, Family and Fascination more deeply whilst seeking to encourage these values in our own lives. Some services may focus on one value, where others may cover all three.

Year Four service dates are as follows:

Friday 11th, October - Faith

Friday 8th, November - Family

Please check the newsletter each week for other important dates or events.

Please have a look at our class page on the school website.

If you have any questions regarding any of the information in this letter, or any other matter of concern, please do not hesitate to contact me. Contact the school office for further information or send me a private message on Google Classroom under homework for the week.

Many Thanks,

Year Four Team.