

Over the next half term, Year 4 will be studying a range of topics which will be taught through focus weeks.

**History:** In history lessons, we'll be finding out the **Ancient Greeks**.

We will focus on:

- Using sources of evidence to deduce information about the past.
- Giving a broad overview of life in Ancient Greece.
- Describing the way of life for the Ancient Greeks.
- Understanding the concepts of continuity and change over time, representing them, along with evidence, on a timeline.
- Using appropriate historical vocabulary.

**Art:** We will be looking at **drawing** in art lessons focussing on:

- Imaginatively collecting, developing and extending ideas in a sketchbook.
- Using a choice of techniques to depict movement, perspective, shadows and reflection.
- Using lines to depict movement.

**Science:** The topic covered in science this half term will be: **States of matter** Our children will be encouraged to investigate and follow lines of enquiry in order to acquire and build upon their knowledge of scientific phenomena.

# Class 4

Blowers Green Primary School



# Spring 1 2017

**Numeracy:** This term children will be learning a range of skills around number, the four operations, shape, space and measure and statistics. There will be a particular focus on mental maths (arithmetic) and formal written calculations.

**Literacy:** We will be learning to read and write different genres including: recount, persuasion, argument, letter, diary, newspaper, descriptive and narrative. This learning will be linked to current topics, as well as our shared class text *Alice in Wonderland* by *C.S. Lewis*.

**RE:** Children will be learning about **Lifestyles** and practices associated with living in a faith community.

**Music:** Throughout our music lessons, children will be learning to read musical notation, sing, play the recorder and clarinet and perform as part of a group with our music teacher - Mrs Barnfather.

**PE:** Physical Education is an important part of our curriculum. Activities this term will include basketball and football. Please ensure that your child's PE kit is in school every Monday and that any valuable jewellery is left at home on that day. The children will be going swimming every Wednesday afternoon for the whole school year.

**Please ensure their swimming kits are in school on a Wednesday.**

**PSHE:** Our focus this term is on **new beginnings**. We will also be learning about **British Values** through our class assemblies and whole school assemblies and a special focus week in September.

**Computing:** Children will be taught a number of key ICT skills linked to multimedia presentations and safe internet search this term. Children will be reminded of safe internet use. Please ensure that this is reinforced at home if children have access to computers.

### Homework

**Numeracy:** Every Friday children will be given a mental maths test to complete at home. This needs to be handed in by the following **Wednesday**. If the children struggle with any questions, they can ask for help in school. Please try to encourage your child to hand in homework as early as possible in order for homework to be marked and returned so that children can correct any errors and misconceptions can be addressed. In addition to this, children need to be secure in their times tables from x2 to x12. Children need to be secure in rapid mental recall of all times tables as it forms the basis of all maths.

**Literacy:** Every second Monday children will be issued with 10 Super Sentences. It is their responsibility to learn the key spellings and punctuation of these sentences. They will be tested for two consecutive Fridays and they must better their score the second time. Children will have the sentences read aloud to them and will be expected to get the grammar, punctuation and spelling of each one accurate. The Reading Challenge and Poetry Recitation Challenge also forms part of the children's homework.

**Reading at Home:** We would like reading books and diaries in school every Friday and would expect that your child read at home daily. Please aim to sign their diaries at least 3 times each week. Remember they don't have to only read books. Newspapers, comics, the internet, television guides and games rules are all texts too! It is your child's responsibility to request a reading book change. Reading is an important skill which also enhances children's writing and imagination.

**Poetry recital:** Each half term children will be given 2 poems to learn at home. They must be able to recite the poem without any mistakes and answer questions to demonstrate their understanding of the poem's content, techniques and vocabulary. This helps improve children's skills of speaking clearly and slowly as well as enhancing their imagination and vocabulary range—which improves their writing! Poetry often comes up in Year SATs so it is imperative that they are familiar with a range of different types of poetry, techniques and structures.

Thank you for your support

Miss Ford and

Mrs Shergill