

Year 4 Newsletter

Monday 28th February

Inspiring lives; creating possibilities; shaping futures

www.sitwelljunior.uk

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 Twitter: @SitwellSchool

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you have had a wonderful half term break. As ever, we are extremely excited to welcome the children back into school and to begin our new topic; Trade and Transport. Looking back over Spring 1, we can all agree that it was extremely successful. The children continued to impress us with their fantastic attitude to learning. It is wonderful to watch our classes becoming increasingly confident and so eager to overcome any challenging hurdles. Some of our highlights include our 'wonderful water' science experiments, baking delicious bread, making dragon eyes from clay and our 'life skills' day.



As mentioned above, our new topic will be titled 'Trade and Transport'. Throughout this unit of work, we will learn about the history of transport and how it has evolved over time. Further, we will look at trading between countries and how transport has played a key role in this. Our class read this term will be 'The Train to Impossible Places'. If you would like to purchase this text, your child may wish to begin reading it to get an insight before we delve deeper as a class.

Maths

This half term, our maths learning will focus on the areas listed below:

- Equivalent fractions
- Adding and subtracting fractions
- Tenths as fractions
- Hundredths as fractions and decimals
- Hundredths on a number line
- Comparing, ordering and rounding decimals

For each objective, children will develop their fluency, reasoning and problem solving skills.

English

In reading sessions, we will begin reading 'The Train to Impossible Places'. In past years, we have found that the children thoroughly enjoy going on an adventure with the characters in this text and we cannot wait to begin reading it with our current classes once again. In writing sessions, we will write a biography based upon the Wright brothers. Further, we will study the picture book 'Journey' and use the images to develop our vocabulary.

Topic

This half term, Year 4 will begin their new topic - Trade and Transport. As **historians**, we will study the history of transport and trade throughout British history and ancient civilisations. As **designers**, we will design, make and evaluate our own vehicle, using our technical knowledge of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce structures and use mechanical systems like gears and pulleys. As **artists**, we will draw and paint images of some of the wonderful forms of transport we have looked at, both ancient and modern. As **scientists**, we will learn how to classify different animals and create food chains.

Home Learning Schedule

Topic

As we encourage independent learning in Year 4, we have set a number of research projects for your child to choose from and complete over a series of weeks. Please see the attached letter for further information.

Reading

At Sitwell Junior School, we aim to encourage children to acquire a love of reading. Therefore, it is really important that you listen to your child read every day. This only needs to be for a short time each day, as little and often is the best approach when supporting your child with their reading. Your child will be asked to choose a book from the colour band appropriate to their ability (in terms of reading and understanding) and a non-fiction book from the library. Our new, online reading diary, on Marvellous Me, will be monitored

by an adult on a regular basis and the children will be able to change their books once a week, during class based reading sessions.

One area that we are looking to develop is the fluency of reading; we are striving to ensure that children can read with appropriate pace and expression. This often involves re-reading a passage until fluency is achieved; you might find that your child has struggled with a sentence, paragraph, or even a page, so asking them to re-read until fluent is absolutely fine. This will improve their word reading and understanding.

In addition to reading their book at home, children have access to a 'Reading Eggs' account, which their class teacher will have shown them how to access. 'Reading Eggs' is an online program, which allows your child to develop their reading comprehension, with texts tailored to your child's individual reading ability. You can access the website at: <https://readingeggs.co.uk/>

Maths

We encourage children to practice their times tables on **Times Table Rock Stars**. This June, children in Year 4 will sit the multiplication tables check. More details to follow.

PE Schedule

We ask that, on their P.E. days, children come to school in their P.E. kit. PE kit is as follows: white t-shirt, black shorts/leggings, black tracksuit and trainers. To begin the half term, children will continue to have two P.E. sessions a week. From the 28th March, children will begin swimming lessons and will then take part in one additional P.E. session in school. A letter will follow shortly to confirm details for swimming.

From 28th February:

	4WN	4EL	4ZN
Session 1	Wednesday	Tuesday	Monday
Session 2	Friday	Thursday	Wednesday

From 28th March:

	4WN	4EL	4ZN
Session 1	Wednesday	Thursday	Monday
Session 2	Friday (swimming)	Friday (swimming)	Friday (swimming)

Twitter and Marvellous Me

If you would like to keep up-to-date with your child's learning in school, then check out the school's Twitter page. The account details are listed at the top of this letter. We also encourage you to track your child's learning on the Marvellous Me app.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs O.Nixon Mrs J.Winters Mrs K. Smith Mr Z.Nazir (The Year 4 Team)