

## Year 4 Newsletter Summer Term 2014

Welcome back! The summer term promises to be a busy and exciting one for Year 4.



Our learning this term will be based around the picture 'The Great Wave Off Kanagawa'. We have been very impressed with the children's responses to 'which they have made over the Easter holidays. We have had models, poems, stories, found objects, photographs, letters and much more!

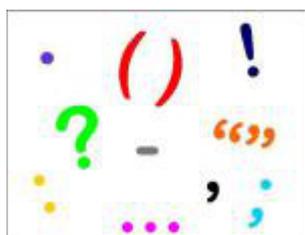


We will be using this picture as an imaginative stimulus for our artwork and other areas of the curriculum. As you know, we are starting our theme with a print making workshop with 'Double Elephant'. Our learning across the term will lead towards a collaborative art project which will also incorporate

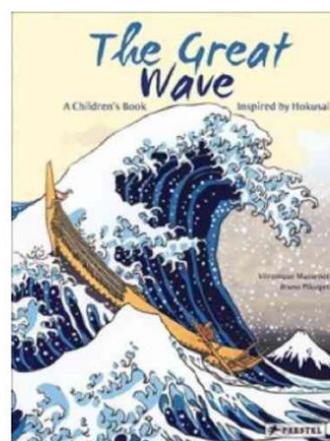


text from the stories we have written. As always, if children have any books, objects or knowledge relating to any aspect of our theme it would be lovely for them to share this with us.

In literacy we will be extending our narrative writing by looking at a picture book inspired by the picture 'The Great Wave'. We will be exploring the story using drama and remembering the text by using story maps, storytelling games and freeze frames to sequence events. A major focus this term will be on vocabulary development. We will expect children to find interesting and effective vocabulary in the texts they encounter and magpie these examples to



use in their own writing. Children will be expected to comment on a writer's choice of words and use strategies to try to work out the meaning of new vocabulary. We will have a daily focus on spelling, grammar and punctuation skills which will particularly concentrate on using punctuation reliably to



demarcate sentences and spelling of high frequency words . This will help the children to consolidate their skills in preparation for Year 5. In addition we will focus on the presentation of handwriting.

We will be continuing to follow the Primary Strategy Framework for Numeracy. Our focus will be on Using and Applying the skills and strategies we have learnt so far this year. We will continue to develop mental maths skills including recollection of times tables facts which may be sent home as home learning.

In science we will be investigating materials to make boats and building these and testing them as part of an investigation. Our geography will focus on flooding, looking at the causes and impact of floods as well as where they have occurred both locally and worldwide.

### What can I do at home?

It makes a huge difference to the progress of your child if you can support them to read at home every day. The skills they gain in reading help them in accessing all areas of the curriculum and this remains the single most important part of home learning you can help your child with. Please ensure reading passports are handed in on a Thursday.

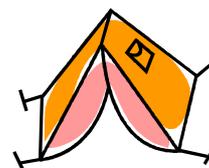
Home learning will reflect the topics that we are covering in school and may include spelling and times tables practise.

PE will take place outside as much as possible this term, so please make sure that your child has a pair of trainers or plimsolls in their PE kits. Our swimming day will be Wednesdays. Please ensure your child has all the equipment they need for PE and swimming.



In May, we will be doing the Year 4 Optional SATs. They will be carried out very informally. We use the results, to inform our planning for the remainder of the summer term.

Our trip to Taw Bottom is planned for the week beginning the 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Details will be sent out closer to the time but it is always a highlight of the Summer Term.



Please remember that children should be in school, by 8:50 each morning, ready to learn. Children who come in any later are missing valuable learning time. All children must have a named water bottle, full of fresh water each day.

### Important Dates:

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June - New class week

Week beginning 7th July - Parents evening

As always, you are always welcome to come and see us if you have any queries or worries. We would appreciate any time you can spare to hear children read or help in any other way.

The Year 4 Team

Mr Middleton, Miss Purcell, Mrs Newell, Sue, Laura