

Literacy

As we start the Autumn 2 half-term, we will continue our exploration of the Dark Ages by looking at Arthurian myths before having a go at writing our own *Knights of the Round Table* adventure story.

Following on from our animal handling experience, we will use our scientific knowledge to write a non-chronological report about a chosen animal.

We will finish the half-term with a focus upon composing poetry using figurative language, such as similes, metaphors and personification.

Weekly spelling tests will continue to consolidate learning of common words and spelling patterns that are taught in conjunction with handwriting as we develop a fluent and consistent joined script.

Mantle of the Expert Geography / History / Art

Our extended British History topic in Y4 is 'Just *how* great was Alfred the Great?' – an exploration of how England and Scotland emerged during the Dark Ages. During the second half of the Autumn term, we will focus in on the Anglo-Saxon migration, including how settlements would be formed and what life would be like for ordinary people during this period.

We also have an on-going Ancient History topic: Ancient Greece. This term, we explore the mythology surrounding Greek gods.

Over the course of the year, we'll become experts in rivers and bodies of water. This half-term, we'll look at rivers in the wider world and learn more about the features of rivers.

Physical / Social / RE

In PE, we will begin our weekly swimming lessons, which will continue until the end of January.

On Mondays, we will be learning the skills required to play basketball.

Our RE topic this half-term is 'Hinduism'.



Half Term Preview Charlies Year 4

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Dates for your diary

Y4 Animal Handling Experience
Monday 12th November 2018.

Christmas Fayre
Friday 30th November 2018

KS2 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 19th December 2018

The last day of school before the half-term break will be Friday 21st December 2018.

Numeracy

During Numeracy lessons this half-term, we will reinforce place value and mathematical operations with work toward securing number facts, calculating and identifying relationships between numbers.

Our weekly *Big Maths...Beat That!* and mental maths sessions will consolidate number facts calculation strategies and help children to learn to work more quickly and accurately.

It is essential that children practise their **Learn Its** at home each week, as the level of maths we are building to will require that knowledge to be embedded.

Science

We will continue to explore the question: Which wild plants and animals thrive near Walkley? We shall compare these to the animals that visit school on 12th November.

How You Can Help

Our homework will be given out every Friday to be returned by the following Thursday. Please ensure your child completes any work set. You can find all our homework on our class page.



It is also important for all children to continue to read regularly at home. Children now have a **Reading Record**. We would like you to sign this to indicate what they have read each night.

We encourage children to try to read a range of more challenging texts including newspapers and internet based articles. Please reinforce the importance of discussing each book upon completion in order to improve your child's ability to enjoy and evaluate a story.

It is essential that children regularly practice their multiplication tables from 1-12 at home each week, as the level of maths we are building to will require that knowledge to be embedded.

PE takes place on Monday and Swimming on Wednesday afternoons.

All children are expected to bring appropriate kit to school on these days. For the safety of your child: Earrings and watches, etc must not be worn during PE. Long hair should be tied up.

If asthma inhalators are required, then children need to have one in school and the office should be aware of their medical needs.

School uniform will continue to be a high priority for us next half-term. We appreciate your continued support with this.