

# Indigo Curriculum Letter

## Autumn 2018

Welcome to year 4. I'm sure you're ready to be thrilled, challenged and wowed by a year of, excitement, exploration and energy. During the year we will seek to reinforce key skills, widen your knowledge base and undertake new experiences which will enable each of you to gain the confidence, self-belief and expertise required to make progress.



Our first Learning Adventure, 'Who was here First?' will provide opportunities to investigate early civilisations including the Stone Age, Iron Age and Bronze Age. We will explore key questions such as; how did humans survive and go from often being prey to predators? How did humans learn to protect themselves from dangers? How does archaeology help us find out about the past? We will be undertaking our own archaeological digs, creating tools using only natural resources, exploring the diet of a cave man and creating our own cave drawings and paintings.

**Literacy** work will, where possible, be closely linked to our learning adventure. During this term we will be exploring, re writing and developing our own stories linked to ancient tales of creation. Writing and performing persuasive speeches, as well as producing non fictional explanations of Stone Age life.



Parents you can continue to support your child with their literacy work at home by helping them to learn their weekly spellings and hearing them read on a weekly basis. Our Harry Potter Spelling and Reading challenges will continue with spelling certificates linked to famous spells from the novels and new rewards being organised for those who read at least four times a week and have their books signed.

**Numeracy:** Building on previous knowledge, we will continue to focus on key mathematical areas of number, shape, data handling and measurement with an increasing focus on applying skills through problem solving challenges. One of the biggest challenges for pupils in year 4 is to ensure they know all their times tables up to 12 off by heart by the end of the year. We now have on line resources such as Rockstar Maths and Mathletics to help support pupils both in the class room and at home. These resources provide a great way to help your child with their maths and share some of their learning journey.



**Science** work this term will focus on 'Rocks and Soil' then 'Animals and Humans' before moving on to look at States of Matter. As you may be aware, we have organised a very exciting trip to the National Stone Centre to support our science work on Rocks and soils and we are also looking forward to working in our new STEM science room.



**Art** work as previously stated will focus on cave paintings and we will also try making some simple pots from clay and developing drawing skills by sketching artefacts.

**PE** this term will include an opportunity for all year 4 pupils to receive table tennis coaching at the Draycott Table Tennis Centre on Thursday afternoons. We will also have a school based session on Monday afternoons focusing initially on ball handling skills



There will be alternate **French and Music lessons** which aim to build on skills developed in year 3 and our **ICT** work will focus on developing e-safety skills and creating IT programs for specific goals.

Our **R.E** focus this term will be focusing on identifying and understanding core Beliefs of different religious groups and **PSHE** sessions this term we will be looking at relationships.

**Homework:** In addition to weekly spellings, I would ask parents to support our children with their reading and the learning of their times tables. I will produce some challenges linked to our Learning Adventures which aim to encourage research, creativity and independent learning skills. These are intended to be fun learning experiences which you may share with parents or other members of you immediate family.

**Finally parents...**

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to talk to me at the end of the school day. If I do not see you before I hope to meet you during our parent's evening.

Yours sincerely

Mr Kane

