



POTTEN END C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Church Road, Potten End, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, HP4 2QY

Telephone 01442 865022

Fax 01442 874974

e-mail:

Head Teacher

admin@pottenend.herts.sch.uk

Mrs Denise Kennedy

www.pottenend.herts.sch.uk

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Dear Parents,

We hope that you all had a lovely Christmas and we wish you all a very Happy New Year. Thank you very much for all of your gifts and extraordinary generosity. They were so thoughtful we were overwhelmed with your kindness. Here is the outline for our exciting spring term, lots of exciting things ahead!

English – We will be looking at a range of texts – covering both fiction and non-fiction. We begin by looking at newspaper reports focusing on the features of this genre and how they are laid out. We will then move on to writing travel leaflets, a narrative based on the text Leon and the place between, before finally tackling Haiku poetry. Each English lesson will be underpinned with a spelling, punctuation or grammar focus. Some of these may be tracking back to year 3 statements to embed.

Guided Reading – Our Guided reading this term will continue to be whole class teaching. We will be using the VIPERS to build our comprehension skills whilst looking at key year 4 texts both non-fiction and fiction including Charlotte's Web.

Mathematics – In math's we will be looking at shape, space and measure in this term as well as continuing to work on our fluency and reasoning. We will be revising and consolidating our number skills across all four operations throughout this term and will continue to follow the Herts For Learning resources to consolidate key mathematics areas as well as to address learning gaps. Key areas we will be looking at over the spring term are: Multiplication and Division, problem solving, decimals and fractions

Science - In the spring term we will be studying 'Electricity and circuits'. As part of this topic the children will be learning how to draw and make a circuit. We will be looking at the scientific names and symbols for components of circuits and experimenting with how we can alter circuits. We have an exciting experiment to see if we can use fruit to generate power! In Spring 2, we will begin to look at eating and digestion including keeping teeth healthy, parts of our digestive system and the process of digestion.

History – Throughout the first part of the spring term we will be studying the Anglo Saxon Kingdom of England to the time of Edward the Confessor. Here, we will revise the historical timeline, unpick Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, Saxon beginnings, Settlements, Religion, village life and art.

Geography – In the second part of the spring term we will carry out study of Scandinavia, looking at the countries that make up Scandinavia, the climate, important Geographical features both human and physical, types of settlements and land use.

Computing: – Within computing this term, we will be looking at logo animation using purple mash as well as 'effective searching'. We will revise and recap internet safety before these units take place.

R.E – During Spring 1, we will explore Hinduism. We will be learning about Hindus values and traditions and making comparisons between that and what we have learnt about Christianity. During Spring 2, we will develop our knowledge of Christianity and salvation.

P.E - Year 4 P.E sessions will take place on a Tuesday and Thursday, please remember to send your child into school in full PE kit. Thursday PE will take place outside so please ensure your child is wearing their outdoor PE kit.

Music – Music this term will be delivered by an external company who will be giving the children a range of opportunities to experience music through the use of instruments and with their voices. The children will learn skills from the national curriculum for music.

Art/Design and Technology – In our Art lessons this term the children will be exploring how we can use colour, line and shape to create patterns, including repeating patterns. In the second half of the spring term will be making and then adapting a simple biscuit recipe within a set budget.

Homework and reading –

The focus for homework will continue to be reading/phonics and maths. Every week, your child is expected to read or follow their learning from Read, Write, Inc. In addition to this, they will have 1 piece of maths homework which will alternate between online home learning and home learning in an exercise book. This learning will be relevant to the learning they are doing in school.

Reading/Phonics: Your child should read at least 3 times a week or complete their individual phonics work. Please remember that homework is set on a Thursday and due in on a Tuesday.

Timetables – As discussed, times tables are a huge priority in year 4. We will be continuing with our daily practicing of times tables where children will have the opportunity to practice their personalized times tables as well as a range of games and activities linked to all of the tables up to 12 x 12. This term we will begin to have frequent mock style practices of the government set Multiplication Times table Check. To support your child with this please make as much use as possible of Times tables Rock Stars.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to a positive, fantastic term.

Kind regards

Mrs Julia Paton and Mrs Nicola Galloway