



**Yarm Primary School  
Part of the Enquire Learning Trust  
Spitalfields  
Yarm  
Stockton on Tees  
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Dear Parents,

We would like to start by wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year. We commend our children for their continued positive attitude towards learning.

**Staff typically in Year 4:**

Class 4LC taught by Mrs Chisholm

Class 4SW taught by Mrs Willis

Mrs Bell, Miss Drysdale, Mrs Dent and Mrs Wright are all part of the Year 4 team.

We have an exciting, challenging and enjoyable Autumn Term planned.

**English:**

In English we will be reading a selection of Troll fables (linked to our Geography topic of Norway), and writing our own Troll Tale, to be shared with Lower School. In addition to this, we will use persuasive writing techniques to create a holiday brochure, comparing a holiday in our local area to that of one in Norway. There will also be an emphasis on performance poetry, linked to the culture in Norway, through Norse spells. There will be a continued emphasis on grammar, punctuation and spelling, which is incorporated into the daily English lesson.

**Maths:**

Maths will continue to follow the current framework with the main areas of learning being the four main calculation strategies, number and place value, problem solving and application of new learning. This will follow on from last term where learning will be consolidated and upskilled. Times tables still remain a major focus for year 4. It is **very** important that the children have rapid recall for the majority of multiplication tables and can derive the associated division facts. Children will also be challenged with speed tables. We would appreciate your continued help in aiding your children to learn these at home, if you require any help with how you can approach this, please don't hesitate to contact us.

**Science:**

In science we will be continuing to learn about the human digestive system. We will then move on to States of Matter, looking at the properties of solids, liquids and gases and changes such as condensation and evaporation.

**ICT:**

We are following the ICT programme 'Switched On'. In spring term we will be using ICT for research and developing a wiki.

*Working Together for Success*

**Foundation subjects:**

In Geography we will use research and map skills in order to answer our enquiry questions, "England vs Norway - Who is greener?" and "To climb or not to climb?". Art and DT will be delivered through these topic themes. Mr Newton will be delivering the music sessions each week to both classes and has planned cross-curricular sessions linked to Norse Gods and the Music of the Mountains.

Our Religious Education work is to compare and contrast festivals across religions as well as studying the Christian Easter story. We will continue to promote Social and Emotional aspects of learning with making personal goals, keeping safe and healthy, friendship and anti-bullying. P.E will take place every week and one session will be outdoors (weather permitting). Outdoor P.E. will be focus on speed and agility on a Wednesday morning, and indoors will be Dance every other Friday morning. Please ensure the children have the correct kit.

**Enterprise:**

During the second half of the term, the children will be involved in an Enterprise project linked to our topic of mountains. More information to follow.

**Homework:**

Homework will be set every Friday and we expect this to be completed and returned to school by the following Friday. The weekly homework will be a spelling rule or a set of spellings to learn each night. Maths homework will focus around the multiplication tables, including some word problems. We will also be sending out a Homework grid each half term in which the tasks are carefully devised to support pupils' learning; we aim to provide stimulating and enriching homework activities. Examples of high quality homework, where applicable, will be displayed in the Y4 corridor.

All children will have opportunities to read in school on a daily basis; however we would like all children to read at home.

**Trips:**

We are hoping to organise two school trips in the Spring Term. We would like to revisit the Mining Museum in Skinningrove to learn more about Mountains. We will hope to return to St Mary Magdalene's church as part of our R.E study of the Easter Story. Details of these visits will follow.

**Prime Time**

Could you please make sure the children have a healthy snack (fruit, vegetables or breadsticks) and water for Prime Time? They do enjoy this and water is important to have throughout the day. If possible, the water bottle should have a sport style lid to minimise spillage if it should accidentally be knocked over!

We look forward to seeing you at Parents' evening on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February or Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, to share information on your child's progress. A sign-up sheet will be in the Year 4 corridor in the week prior.

We thank you for your continued support and are sure we will have a fabulous term.

Year 4 team