



The Priory Church of England Primary School



"Learning together, aiming high"

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had an enjoyable half-term! It was nice to speak with you at our recent parent evenings and pleasing to hear that the children have enjoyed their start to the school year. Joining me in Class 4 this half-term are **Mrs Clapcott**, our 'new' (but familiar) TA, and **Miss Salter**, a student teacher on placement with us until early-December.

Our new project is called '**Bright Lights, Big City**' which is an-depth study of the city of London. We will be learning the chronology of our country's capital, from its origins in Roman times through to its role as a modern economic and cultural powerhouse.

For our **brilliant beginning** we will be using Google Maps to explore current-day London and our Fantastic Finale will see us construct 3D models of London landmarks, which will be lit up via electrical circuits.

In **English**, we will be continuing to use the 'Talk for Writing' approach, with units organised across three weeks. We begin by imitating a 'model' text: these will be modern fiction (**A Rival for Rachel**) with our focus being dialogue & characterisation and a Christmas story called '**The Bear and the Hare**'. In our second week we make changes to the model text (innovation), using our writing toolkit as a guide, before inventing our own text in the final week.

Daily guided reading sessions will continue to be our whole-class study of the book *Shadow Forest* (Matt Haig). The class have been really captivated by this story and are looking forward to some more literature from the same author over the festive period. A whole-class spelling session will continue to be taught on a Monday, with pupils taking responsibility for learning spellings in their journals. The spellings are also posted to Google Classroom.

In **Maths**, we are continuing to use the *Maths No Problem* scheme and this half-term we will be multiplying and dividing. In addition, we are using our Maths Journals regularly to develop our reasoning and problem-solving skills.

In **Science**, we are learning about electricity – identifying appliances which run on mains and battery power, building simple series circuits and investigating conductors and insulators. Key vocabulary: *circuit, series, parallel, loop, bulb, buzzer, wire, cell, battery, conductor, insulator*

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In **PE** the pupils have enjoyed working with Mr Major, who will be doing handball and 'bridges' in gymnastics over the coming weeks.

In **Art** we will be learning about the artist Ton Schulten and his city-scapes and in **DT** we will be designing and constructing 3D models of famous London landmarks.

In **RE** we will be learning about incarnation in Christianity and asking the question 'What is the Trinity?'

In **Music** we will be developing our learning about the language of music through playing the Glockenspiel, as part of the Charanga scheme.

In **Computing**, we will be using our coding skills to create lights and moving parts for our 3D London buildings.

Core Skills time

We will continue to use the 9.00 – 9.30 slot from Monday - Friday to practise our core skills. On a Monday this is a spelling workshop, during which the new spelling rule for the week is introduced. On Tuesdays we will revise key skills in Maths on a Wednesday this will be punctuation and grammar. On Fridays we work on our reading comprehension skills.

Home Learning

Pupils will be set **English** home learning tasks each **Monday** via Google Classroom, to be given turned in by Thursday. These will alternate between reading comprehension and SPAG. **Maths** home learning will be set on **Thursday**, to be turned in by the following Monday.

Pupils in Class 4 are expected to **read at home on a daily basis**. They should be keeping a record of their books in the Reading Records. Whilst we are unable to ask the children to be bringing this to and from school as usual, they will be asked to upload a photo of their progress as part of a special 'reading celebration' homework set next week.

P.E.

P.E. will continue to take place on a **Wednesday and Thursday** - please ensure your child wears their kit in to school on these days.

Thank you for your continued support as we look forward to a busy few weeks in Class 4 in the run up to Christmas.

Kind regards,

Mr Croutear
Class 4 Teacher