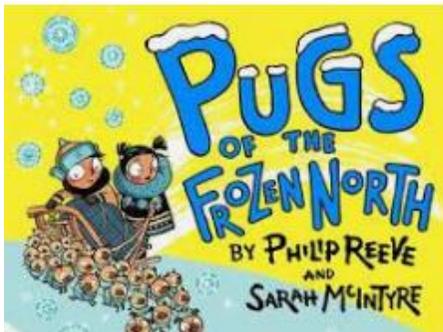


Grangetown Primary School ~ Enjoy - Respect - Achieve

Welcome to Year 4



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the second half of Autumn Term. We hope you had a lovely holiday, and that you are looking forward to the exciting activities we have planned for the rest of this term!

Our first topic this term is **'The Frozen North'** and is all based on a class novel we will be reading. We have lots of exciting activities planned to make this half term fun and engaging for your child, especially linked to science, where we will be exploring different sources of light.

We hope that by working together we can make this a happy and very productive half-term for your child, offering them interesting and challenging activities and experiences and ensuring that they make the best possible progress with their learning.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to pop in for a chat (the best time is at 3.20 pm). We will be happy to speak to you and/or make an appointment for a more lengthy discussion.

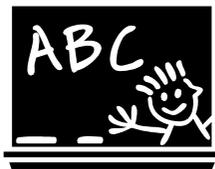
Yours sincerely,

Mrs Millican (Teacher) with Miss Asl (Teaching Assistant)



Please look inside...

Some Important Reminders...



Start of the day. We would be grateful if you would ensure that your child arrives on time for school. The whistle blows at 8.50. Children who arrive late are missing out on important information and instructions for the day and miss our early bird activities. We award certificates and prizes for good attendance. We are aiming for 98%-100% - please play your part in helping us to meet this ambitious target.

End of the day. School finishes at 3.20pm. Children should be picked up by their parents or carers from the relevant classroom door. Please inform us if someone new is collecting your child. If they are unknown to us we may not allow your child to go with them.

Uniforms and Coats. We would be grateful if these could be clearly named. Please ensure children bring a coat to school everyday, even if the weather is warm that morning. The English weather can soon change so we like to be prepared!

Reading. Your child has a guided reading session for half an hour every day with their class teacher. They also have an opportunity to read their new reading book on a 1:1 basis with an adult as often as possible. It is therefore vital that reading books are returned every day. A shared reading session at home is very valuable. You can write a comment or simply sign your child's Home-Link Reading Record Book.

PE. This term, P.E. lessons will take place on a Friday. Children may come to school dressed in their P.E kits - shorts/jogging bottoms/leggings, plain white t-shirt and black plimsolls. No jewellery should be worn on P.E. days and long hair should be tied back.

Children who choose to work with Arj for football on a lunchtime should bring their kit into school on a Tuesday.

Learning at Home. Learning at home books are sent home every Friday with spellings and space to practice multiplications. These should be practised at least three times a week and returned to school each Thursday. Children are also expected to practise their reading at least three times a week. Could adults please sign the children's books and support the children to move up the Eager Reader chart.

Thank you for your continued support, it really makes a difference!

English: This half term we will be reading 'Pugs of the Frozen North'. The children will be using their knowledge of the story to write diary entries in the role of a character, character and setting descriptions. They will be writing a four part story around the text with a strong climax and resolution using rich and varied vocabulary. The children will also be writing an explanation piece of writing, explaining how their 'designer' sled works.

Maths: This half term, the children will be adding and subtracting numbers with up to 4 digits using formal written methods. They will find the area of rectilinear shapes by counting squares. They will make shapes and compare areas. Children will multiply multiples of 3, 6, 9, 7, 11 and 12. They will multiply by 1 and 0. Children will divide numbers by 1 and itself and will multiply three numbers.

Science States of Matter: We will continue our science unit this term and extend to finding out how materials can change from one state to another. The children learn about the melting point of different materials. Children will experiment to find out if sea water evaporates faster than tap water and will find out how long it takes for a puddle to evaporate.

Geography: The Tropics and Equator: This half term, the children will be learning all about parts of the globe including the equator, the tropics. Children will learn about what is meant by longitude and latitude. They will find and locate the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn and will find out about countries that surround them. They will learn about the Prime Meridian and learn about East and West hemispheres.

ICT: Data Handling: In ICT the children will be learning how to create a spreadsheet - selecting tools to change the appearance of cells and adding text. The children will be using this knowledge to create and play games including battleships and a multiplication game. They will then use their skills to create a spreadsheet for different minibeasts and their habitats.

DT: Food Technology: In DT the children will be researching and learning about what Arctic Explorers eat when on expeditions. They will explore the nutritional value of the different foods and understand how Explorers' diets may be different to ours. The children will also be creating a recipe for a popular product which they will then make, measuring the ingredients accurately and following the recipe.

French: Children will be learning how to recognise and identify landmarks in London in French. They will be using questions and answers they have previously learnt to hold a conversation. They will be writing post cards from a holiday destination and will perform a rhyme about the Eiffel Tower and will be reading a story about Christmas in French.

Music:

R.E: What do Hindus believe God is like? The children will be finding out how Hindu stories and symbols show about belief in Brahman. They will find out II about the Hindu Gods. Children will learn about what the Trimurti represents. They will learn about Hindu worship in the home and will find out about the Diwali story and how it links to the Hindu deity.

P.E—Dance: In PE this term the children will be dancing in PE. They will work with partners to create their own dances using movement patterns to structure the dance phrases. They will refine, repeat and remember dance phrases and dances.

Personal, Social, Health Education - Celebrating Difference. In this unit, children look at how everyone is unique. They learn will learn about why it is important to be accepting of people and how important it is to accept that everyone is different.

Top tips for Year 4 parents



- Encourage your child to read every day (20 minutes would be ideal).
- Even if your child is already a fluent reader, you can still support him/her by exploring their understanding of what they have read e.g. Describe what has happened so far. How does character 'A' feel, what do you think he/she will do next, why?
- Practise their times tables, every day! They are expected to know all tables up to 12 x 12.
- Encourage your child to pay for things at shops, working out the expected change.
- Practise telling the time, both digital and analogue. e.g. If I pick you up at 6 o'clock how long will you have at the swimming pool?
- Encourage children to look at tables and charts to figure out how they work e.g. train timetables, television schedules.
- Ask your child about their school topics and how their knowledge is progressing. What experience do you have in these areas amongst your family and friends?
- Take an interest in their homework; make sure they hand it in on time. If your child has not understood what they need to do and you are unsure how best to explain, get them to ask the teacher as soon as possible.
- Encourage your child to become more independent – Allow your child to take responsibility for their belongings. Encourage them to prepare their bag for school the night before.

GPS on Social Media



We have 3 social media accounts that you can follow to keep up with what your child is doing. Our 3 accounts are:

Facebook: @grangetownprimary

Twitter: @Grangetown_PS

Instagram: grangetown_ps