

## Year 4 Parent/Carer Newsletter - Spring Half Term 1

*The aim of our curriculum is to link much of the work around a theme, which makes learning more exciting and purposeful.*

### Science

Our Science focus will be on Electricity. We will begin by naming some common electrical appliances. We will then construct our own circuits, naming the key parts and saying whether the circuit is complete. By the end of the unit the children will know that a switch opens and closes a circuit and they will recognise some common conductors and insulators.

### Music

We will continue to learn how to play the ukulele and play along to a backing track. We will learn about the famous composer Tchaikovsky and listen to the music he wrote. We will also begin to recognise changes of rhythm and pitch using staff notation.

### English Work

Our English work this term will be based around the text 'Maria's Island' written by Victoria Hislop. It will provide the opportunity for the children to explore the Greek island of Crete and the leper colony of Spinalonga through their reading. We will then learn about the key features of letter writing and write one from one of the main characters in the book.

### French

This half term we will learn the alphabet and order food and drinks from a French café.

### Religious Education

This term we will learn how the Five Pillars guide Muslims.

### **Geography - Why is the Mediterranean a popular holiday destination?**

We will read maps, naming and finding countries. We will describe and compare landscapes and study the country of Italy through a more in-depth case study.

### Creative Carousel

In our three groups we will be enjoying either, outdoor learning, how to make a lighthouse or creating movement in figures based upon the work of the artist Keith Haring.

### Mathematics

We will concentrate on: Multiplication and division — including the grid and bus stop methods. We will also learn how to calculate the area of a given shape. When exploring number we will read, compare and make equivalent fractions.

### PE

We will continue with swimming classes as well as developing our teamwork skills in games. We will also create and perform our own dances, focusing on movement in response to music.

### Computing

This half term our focus will be online safety.