



Spring 2023 Newsletter

Crimson and Scarlet Classes

Welcome back to Year 4 and a Happy New Year to you all!

It is lovely to be starting back in the New Year with the children and we are very much looking forward to all of the fantastic learning we have planned for this term. The children have returned with renewed enthusiasm and a vigour for learning. Thank you all for your continued support.

Curriculum

Maths This term in maths, we are continuing our work on multiplication and moving onto using the column method to solve multiplication problems up to 3 digits. The children will be developing their understanding of dividing whole numbers by 10, 100 and 1000 and their knowledge of factors and factor pairs. We will also be looking at measurement, focusing on different units of measure. We will then move on to perimeter and area, calculating this for a variety of rectilinear shapes. Through each strand, we will continue to undertake reasoning and problem solving questions and try to relate the maths to everyday life.

English The children are looking at contemporary fiction this half term and we are using the book 'Gorilla' by Anthony Browne for our inspiration. We will be learning to write a variety of sentences to describe, and are building our bank of emotive language to express a character's thoughts and feelings. Then, we will be moving on to look at persuasive writing. The children will be persuading their audience to sponsor an endangered species and persuading their audience to think about their actions in helping to save these animals.

Science In the first half term, we will be finishing off our work on the digestive system. We will be drawing and labelling the different parts of the digestive system and discussing how enzymes and acid are all part of us digesting food. Then we will be discovering all about sound, vibrations and sound waves. We will be making lots of noise in this unit and carrying out several experiments. The classes will even be making their own instrument of choice. In Spring 2, we will move on to 'Living things and their habitats'. In this unit we will investigate food chains and even use branching diagrams for some classification work.

History We are continuing with the theme of the Romans and learning more about how they impacted life in Britain with their traditions and innovations. Then, we will also be investigating how ancient Britons lived before the Roman invasions.

Enrichment (Music, PE & French)

Music: Year 4 will continue to learn their respective instruments. On Tuesday mornings, Scarlet are carrying on with violins, and Crimson are continuing with trumpets and trombones on Wednesdays. It is amazing to see how far the children have come in such a short time and we are all looking forward to some concerts.

PE: Spring 1 is focused on gymnastics with elements of dance incorporated. The children will be developing their own gymnastics/dance routine, learning gymnastic shapes/balances and counter-balances, as well as dance concepts and fundamental jumps and rolls. We will also be exploring the gymnastics apparatus to develop confidence in climbing, jumping and balancing. **Spring 2** is focused on Handball, learning the core skills of passing/receiving, shooting and utilising space. The children will learn the rules as well as basic tactics. We will also have 2 Hockey lessons learning all basic techniques and structured rules.

French: The children will learn vocabulary about family members, numbers 30-70, and how to describe someone. taking into account the order of nouns and adjectives.

RE

Our first big question this term is, 'How do Christians believe following Jesus' new commandment, and his two greatest commandments, make a difference?' We will be looking at the commandments and discussing their meaning. The children will reflect on what the commandments and the sentiment behind them means to them personally.

Our second big question this term is, 'Do fame and the Christian faith go together?' We will be looking at a variety of celebrities and how their faith helps them to cope in their particular industries or fields. We will also reflect on what helps us cope in our own lives.

Homework

Homework will be given out every Friday. Please ensure your child completes the tasks set and returns their work by the following Wednesday. The work set each week is to scaffold their learning in class that week and will enhance their learning. It also provides you with an insight to what they have been learning about. Please ensure children are logging onto their timetable rock stars to practice their timetables – if new logins are required, please speak to your class teacher.

General Reminders

- **PLEASE NAME** all sweaters, coats, gloves, hats, plimsolls etc. We regularly end up with bundles of unnamed uniform or sports clothes, which are piling up in the lost property container.
- Crimson Class will have violin lessons on a Tuesday, and Scarlet Class, trumpet or clarinet on a Wednesday (to be confirmed). Please remind your children to bring their instrument in on the specified day.
- The children will be doing **PE** on **Wednesdays**. Children to come to school in their correct PE kit (no school uniform).
- Please ensure that your child reads every day and do ask them about **what** they have read. The most important thing is that this is an enjoyable and valuable experience, which will further support your child to develop a love of reading and will naturally feed into their writing.
- We would like to remind parents that the school has a no jewellery policy, and earrings should be studs only, please. Nail polish is not allowed.
- If your child has long hair, please make sure it is tied back.
- Please also ensure that your child wears **black shoes** to school. If trainers, these must be completely black with no bright logos, flashing details or coloured laces/soles.
- Children are encouraged to bring in a piece of fruit to eat during morning playtime.
- Please send a named water bottle into school daily.
- Please keep up to date with news on our website [here](#)

Key dates

Please look out for the main newsletters as well as emails/text messages from the admin team.

- Monday 13th to Friday 17th February: half term - school closed
- Monday 20th February: children return to school
- March: Parent Consultations - details to follow
- Thursday 2nd March: World Book Day
- Thursday 9th March: When I Grow Up Day
- Monday 3rd to Friday 14th April: Easter holiday
- Monday 17th April: INSET day - school closed
- Tuesday 18th April: children return to school as usual

*You can find the above dates and more on our calendar [here](#)

If there is anything that you would like to talk to us about, please do not hesitate to contact the school and we can phone you or make an appointment - we really value close communication with you. We are looking forward to working closely with you all and we are very happy to help.

Miss Toms and Miss Gordon

Year 4 Team