

# Year 4 Autumn Term 2 Newsletter

Dear parents/carers,



It was great to meet you all properly at parents' evening last term.

The children have shown amazing enthusiasm in their learning so far and have loved studying the Romans. We have an exciting trip planned to the London Roman Amphitheatre on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December**. This will give children a chance to examine ancient Roman ruins and handle artefacts. Our class assembly is on **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November** at 10am – I hope you can come and see us perform!

In Maths we will start by mastering our rounding skills. We will then be investigating the four operations, beginning with addition and subtraction. We will focus on the column method and how to use this strategy to solve word problems. Please make sure you are also practising all the times tables at home so the children are ready for multiplication after Christmas.

In English we will be writing about Roman villas, trying our best to persuade people to buy the most up-to-date, luxurious villa! In addition, we will be studying the formidable Boudicca and writing about her. Text types will include diary entries, a character description and finally a newspaper report. We will be working on our presentational features (bullet points, headings) and our description (using expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials).

In Geography, following our learning about Mount Vesuvius, Pompeii, we will build on our knowledge of volcanoes. We will develop our mapping skills by locating volcanoes around the world. In Design and Technology the children will be designing and making a machine that the Romans could have used to help build their roads. Their inventions will include a pulley-mechanism.

Our value in PSHE will be 'pioneering'. We will be spending time discussing what this means and specific people in history who were pioneers. We will also be learning about aspirations, identifying our strengths and setting goals for the future.

In Computing, we will be HTML editors – learning what goes on behind the scenes on web pages. We will explore how to make changes to and create our own web pages.

In Science, we will be investigating the different states of matter. We'll be investigating how different materials can change state and what these processes are called. Children will be taking part in a range of challenging experiments to deepen their scientific knowledge.

I'm sure you've already heard about the instruments we've been trying out with Lambeth Musitrax! Soon we will be able to take these instruments home to continue practicing; we will send home a letter about this soon. Please make sure children take care of the instruments and bring them back in for our lesson every Tuesday.

Our P.E. lessons will continue to be on Monday and Tuesday. Please make sure children come to school with their full kit (a yellow or white t-shirt and dark-coloured shorts) on these days.

Homework this term is due in on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**. Children must complete a minimum of four activities. In addition to this, please ensure your child is reading a quality text for 20 minutes each day. This needs to be recorded in their reading record at least 4 times a week with a meaningful comment about what they have read. Please check and sign the record once a week. We will check reading records on a Monday to ensure this has been done.

I hope you find this information useful. If you have any questions, I'm usually available after school on Monday, Wednesday or Friday and would be pleased to chat with you.

Best wishes,  
Becca