

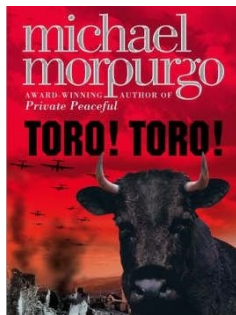


**Waddesdon Village Primary School**  
**Pathway to Excellence**  
**Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter**  
**Spring 1 2023**



**English:**

Our core class text this half term is *Toro Toro* by Michael Morpurgo. It links to our geography topic 'Spain' and this story will provide an opportunity to investigate some Spanish vocabulary and what life is/was like in Spain. The children will build upon their knowledge of punctuation and grammar from the Autumn term and we will be writing some persuasive pieces linked to Bull Fighting. The class will take part in weekly whole class reading comprehension lessons linked to the text. During these sessions pupils will have the opportunity to discuss rich vocabulary and apply their comprehension skills.



**General Introduction:**

I hope you all managed to have a good Christmas break. Welcome back to another busy half term in Class 4. We have planned many interesting activities for your children to ensure that they are engaged and make good progress throughout the curriculum. We will be starting this off with our Spanish Day on Tuesday 11th January. If there is anything that you wish to discuss please feel free to contact me.

Spring 1  
**"Viva Espana!"**



**Mathematics:**

This half term children will continue to concentrate on the multiplication and division operations. The expectation is that children know all their tables up to 12X12 by the end of Year4 and this will help them with these methods. Mrs Morris will continue to alternate her Wednesday lesson on maths investigations and basic skills. Throughout all these conceptual areas, pupils will have the opportunity to practice their problem solving and reasoning skills, in familiar and unfamiliar contexts.

**PE:**

PE this half term will be Badminton and Net/Wall Games.

**Science:**

We are moving onto our next topic which is electricity. During this unit the class will learn about: how electricity is produced; using electricity safely; making circuits and using switches. They will experiment and investigate circuits to see the changes when more bulbs or battery cells are added.

**Weekly schedules:**

Our schedule will include PE on a **Wednesday** and **Friday** so please ensure a suitable PE kit is worn on these days. Mrs Morris will continue to teach the class on Wednesday mornings and PPA will be covered on Wednesday afternoons by a specialist PE teacher, Mrs Watkins and Mrs Saw.

**DT & Art:**

The children will make torches using their electricity knowledge.

**RE:**

This half term the children will be looking at the religion of Judaism again, with a focus on "Passover". They will investigate Jewish food laws (Kashrut) and how this helps Jews show God they value their special relationship with Him.



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**Geography:**  
 Throughout the Autumn term the class will be using maps and atlases to locate Europe and the European countries. The focus will then be on Spain. The children will research Spain and investigate reasons why tourists would want to visit Spain. They then continue to compare a Spanish town with Waddesdon. This topic will continue in Spring 2.

**Music:**  
 The Kapow music scheme will be followed. This half term the children will follow a unit called "Changes to Tempos". This will look at different music speeds and relate it to the speed of Rivers.

**Computing:**  
 This half term the children will be learning how to use Spreadsheets. They will use formulas, line graphs and other tools with a Purple Mash programme.

**PSHE:**  
 At the beginning of term we will revisit our "Growth Mindset" ideas to continue to encourage a positive learning attitude in the classroom. Pupils will then continue to follow the JigSaw scheme of work. The unit is called "Dreams and Goals" and the pupils will be learning about opportunities and disappointment, positive attitudes and working as a team towards shared goals.

**MFL:**  
 French will be taught by Mr Mitchener on Thursday mornings. He will be following the Rigolo scheme of French work, which continues in Spring 1 with a unit called "Les Fetes"



**Important Dates:**

Wed 4th Jan	Inset
Thurs 5th Jan	Children return
Tues 11th Jan	Spanish Day
Thurs 13th Jan	KS2 Inter-house Sports Afternoon
Wed 1st Feb - Fri 3rd Feb	Woodrow
Mon 6th Feb	Children's Mental Health day
Thurs 9th Feb	Kindness Workshop
Fri 10th Feb	Break Up at 3.20
	Half Term
Mon 20th Feb	Children Return

**How you can support your child at home:**  
 As before, children will be receiving home learning every Thursday which is due in the following Monday. Home learning will be linked to what they are learning in Maths and English. Please continue to encourage your children to reach the other homework expectations: Reading at least 4 times a week as well as Bug Club, practise times tables and use TT Rock Stars/Numbots 3 times a week to access the activities; and finally to keep working on the Year 3 and 4 spelling list regularly.

**Final word:**  
 We have really enjoyed sharing any achievements that your children have completed outside of school with the rest of the class. Please continue to send these in, if you would like to email them into the school office and we can celebrate them in our assembly time. We are looking forward to our trip to Woodrow in February and I will send out a separate letter to remind you of the kit list that the children will need. This will be emailed out.

If you have any questions please come and speak to me on the playground or email the office.  
 Mrs Smith

