



# Waddesdon Village Primary School

## Pathway to Excellence

### Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter

#### Spring 1

**Topic: Viva Espana!**

<p>Happy New Year! 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 also have our residential to Woodrow in week 5 so I hope all the children are looking forward to it.</p> <p>This half term, our topic is Viva Espana and we will be learning all about Spain across the curriculum. If there is anything that you wish to discuss, please feel free to contact me.</p>	<p><b>Weekly schedule</b></p> <table><tr><td>Monday:</td><td>Hand in homework &amp; reading records</td></tr><tr><td>Wednesday:</td><td>PE (Exposure Sport) and Mrs Saw teaching in the afternoon</td></tr><tr><td>Thursday:</td><td>Homework given out</td></tr><tr><td>Friday</td><td>PE – tag rugby on the field.</td></tr></table>	Monday:	Hand in homework & reading records	Wednesday:	PE (Exposure Sport) and Mrs Saw teaching in the afternoon	Thursday:	Homework given out	Friday	PE – tag rugby on the field.
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<p><b>English</b></p> <p>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 a discussion text linked to bull fighting. We will then explore writing a holiday brochure to advertise travelling to Spain. 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.</p>	<p><b>Mathematics</b></p> <p>This half term, the 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 Year 4 and this will help them with these methods. Throughout all these conceptual areas, pupils will have the opportunity to practise their problem solving and reasoning skills, in familiar and unfamiliar contexts. We will also continue with our arithmetic lessons using tests from <a href="http://mathsbot.com">mathsbot.com</a> that you are able to access and practise at home.</p>								
<p><b>Computing</b></p> <p>This half term, the children will be learning how to use spreadsheets. They will use formulas, line graphs and other tools using the Purple Mash programme. We will then begin to explore 'Microbits' and how these can be used in games.</p>	<p><b>Science</b></p> <p>Our new topic is electricity. 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.</p>								



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<p><b>PE</b> On Wednesday afternoons, PE lessons will be led by Exposure Sports learning about dance. On Friday afternoons, we will be learning about tag rugby. It will be on the field so a spare change of shoes would be great if possible and warm clothing.</p>	<p><b>Music</b> 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.</p>	
<p><b>DT</b> At the end of the half term, the children will make a board game using their electricity and ICT knowledge.</p>	<p><b>MFL</b> We will be learning the numbers to 10 in Spanish this half term and some other Spanish phrases.</p>	
<p><b>RE</b> We will be looking at the religion of Judaism again, with a focus on "Passover". We will investigate Jewish food laws (Kashrut) and how this helps Jews show God they value their special relationship.</p>	<p><b>Geography</b> Throughout the 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.</p>	
<p><b>PSHE</b> We will be using Kapow for PSHE this half term and focus on the unit, Health and Well Being. This explores dental health, ways that children can make themselves feel safe and relaxed, understand what mental health is and that sometimes people might need help. We will reflect on our Zones of regulation throughout this unit.</p>		
<p><b>How you can support your child at home?</b> Children will be receiving home learning which is due in on a Monday. Home learning will be linked to what the children are learning in Maths and English. As a school, we are continuing to have a big push on children reading for pleasure. To support this, please could you encourage your children to read every night. Rich texts can be accessed via our 'Rocket Reading Challenge'. Pupils will continue to have weekly times tables tests. Please could you help your children practise these and complete set tasks on 'Times Tables Rock Stars'. Pupils will have the Year 3 and 4 spelling list in the front of homework books and the expectation is that children can spell these words, and use them in their writing by the end of the year. They have been highlighted to show which words they need to work on. Your support is vital and much appreciated. Please feel free to arrange to see me or talk on the phone, should you ever need to – please email via the school office. Mr Irwin</p>		<p><b>Important Dates:</b> <b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b> INSET <b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January</b> Children return <b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January</b> additional PE <b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February</b> Woodrow residential trip <b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February</b> additional PE</p>



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