



Terms 1 and 2 Hazel Class, Y4 – Mrs Broster and Mrs Swonnell

## Welcome Back!

We wish you all a very warm welcome back to St. Augustine's. We hope that you all had a wonderful break and that your children are now feeling settled in class. It has been a great start to this academic year and we have enjoyed getting to know everyone. We are extremely proud of the way they have settled into the new routines and are showing a love of learning. Do come talk to us if there is anything you want to know more about. We'd love to have some volunteers to come and help on trips and hear readers in school. If you'd like to buy something for our class, do take a look at our Amazon wish list. If you find any of the same books on sale in a charity shop or for resale on line, we are as happy with those as having brand new. The content is the same!

Year 4 - <https://amzn.eu/3ZA4P3O>

## Homework

Homework is made up of daily reading, spelling practice, learning times tables and a piece from "My Maths." The My Maths work will be set on line and you will receive log in details. It is set on a Friday to be completed by the following Friday.

## Spellings

We will give out weekly spellings on a Friday. The spelling test will be the following Friday. Do practise writing the spellings at home as this helps with the muscle memory. However, it's just as important to be able to use the words in their conversations so also try to use any new vocabulary when you're talking or make up word games with the lists.

## Times tables up to 12x12

Later this year your children will take the National Multiplication Times Table check. The children will be tested on all their tables up to 12x12. They will be expected to answer the question electronically in under 6 seconds.

To help learn their times table facts, the school has a subscription to the fantastic TT Rock Stars website. Every child has their own individual secure log in details and can access the website at home. Their log in details are in the front of their reading record. Do encourage your child to use this website regularly. Ten minutes of practice daily "in the garage" will result in rapid progress for any child.

The algorithm within the programme will target the table your child most needs to practise. Don't be tempted to let a sibling or adult use their log in; the computer will think that they are a whiz and will target the wrong table. It's a lot of fun to send a challenge to a classmate or one of the teachers!

## Reading

There is nothing like practice to help your child become a better reader and reach a point where reading is a pleasure. There is strong evidence that children who read 10 minutes daily at home throughout their primary school years, go on to achieve a whole grade better in every subject at GCSE level. Help share the gift of reading with your child and invest in their future choices.

Their reading book and record should be brought home daily for home reading. The reading records have a space for you to write comments, record tricky words and list the actual pages read. Children who read at least 4 x a week at home to an adult and have it recorded in their book will receive a house point. It is important to discuss what they have read and help explain any new vocabulary they encounter.

Reading is taught as a whole class and will be based on 'The Iron Man' to start with and following this, the class novel will be 'The Wild Robot'.

## Mathematics

In term 1, Monday – Wednesdays, pupils will be focusing on place value, followed by addition and subtraction. Thursdays and Fridays will have a focus on area then shape. In term 2 the children will be covering multiplication and division, with the end of each week focused on length and perimeter.

Telling the time to the nearest minute using both analogue and a digital clock is an essential skill in this this year's learning. Do talk about time and use both digital and analogue clocks in the home to practise this skill.

## English

After completing a week written work based on the piece of art 'Girl with a Pearl Earring' by Vermeer, the children will be using The Iron Man by Ted Hughes as a focus for the English work. This is a story about learning to understand and accept people who are different from themselves.

The focus will be on narrative features such as creating interesting descriptions with the use of expanded noun phrases and interesting features such as using repetition for effect. We will also be revisiting some of the skills taught last year.

## Science

During term 1, pupils will be learning about animals and their digestive system. We will look at teeth as part of this topic. Practical work will help us understand how they can be damaged and we will also think about how to protect teeth. This will be linked to our English work in the second part of term 1.

## RE

The RE is a unit called Creation and Covenant. The children will learn the story of Abraham and explore how his faith guided his decisions and actions. This is followed by finding out how faith influenced Jenny Garzón Saavedra who uses art with young people to help them learn about their rights, express their feelings and how to get on with each other.

## Humanities

Pupils will be learning about Cities and Countries around the World. They will use atlases, non-fiction books and the internet to develop their knowledge of these fascinating locations. At the beginning of term 2, as part of our humanities curriculum focus on Travel and Transport, we will go on a class trip to the S.S. Great Britain to discover what life was like aboard the ship and understand about voyages of discovery.

## Art and DT

This term, in art, pupils will explore magnification and mark making using new imagery; explore textile technique to develop patterns and then create their own pattern. They will study the artwork of William Morris and take inspiration from his textiles and art work.

In term 2, in Design and Technology, pupils will design and make a car with a working slingshot mechanism and house the mechanism using a range of nets.

## PE

PE days are Wednesday (outdoors) and Friday (indoors). Children should come to school on these days wearing their PE kit: the yellow T shirt with plain dark shorts. As it gets colder through the term, they can wear plain dark joggers or leggings instead. On top of their t shirts, they are to wear either the PE hoodie or their grey school jumper or cardigan.

## Music

This term, Class 4 will start to have some whole class recorder lessons. Each child will be loaned a school recorder which they will keep in their drawer in school. They will also be able to bring it home to practise their new skills. We will of course carry on listening to other music and singing all sorts of other bits and bobs.