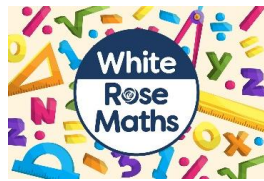
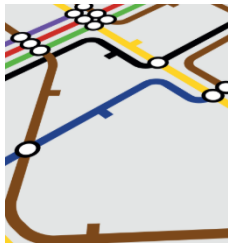


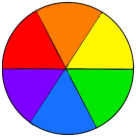
CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Welcome back!

Hello and welcome to a new academic year. We hope you have all had a super summer break and are looking forward to a fresh new start. We are so excited for all the learning we have planned for you. Here is a snapshot of what we will be getting up to in the first half term.

Year 4

English	Reading	Maths
		
We will be starting the year with writing our own fables, inspired by well known stories like the Hare and the Tortoise and the Lion and the Mouse. After this, we will be celebrating Black History Month and writing biographies for influential black role models including the brilliantly determined mathematician, Katherine Johnson.	We will continue on from our work in Year 3 by accessing a range of Little Wandle Fluency books to build up our reading stamina, speed, fluency and prosody. Alongside this, we will be enjoying a range of class books throughout the term. Our main chapter books that we will be reading as a class are The Nothing to See Here Hotel by Steven Butler and Loki, by Louie Stowell.	In maths, our autumn terms topics will be - Place Value - Addition and subtraction - Area - Multiplication and division As well as this, we will be starting as we mean to go on with lots of times table practice for the multiplication check coming up later in the year.
RE	History	Geography
		
Our RE topic is all about the concept of 'neighbour' and being a good neighbour. We will explore what this concept means to us and who we consider our neighbours; we will then relate this to Christianity and consider how Christians view the concept of being a good neighbour and what they do to act on this.	Our history topic, which will start after the October half term, is called 'Invaders and Settlers'. During this project, we will explore who the Anglo-Saxons were, why they came to Britain and what happened after the Romans left. We will use stories and historical sources to investigate everyday life, learn about the spread of Christianity and discover the story behind Sutton Hoo. At the end of the project, we will consider the Anglo-Saxon's lasting influence on Britain	In geography, we will be adventuring across the Americas. We will explore both the north and the south using maps, atlases, globes and online mapping tools. We will identify countries, investigate climate zones and research one country in depth. Then we will compare the Sierra Nevada, Lake District and Alps, before planning a route across the Americas visiting key human and physical features.

Music	Computing	DT
		
In music, our unit is called 'Reading Rhythms'. Throughout this unit, the children will focus on reading and writing rhythms. They will develop ways to notate rhythms and compose short rhythmic phases to fit within a well known tune - using a variety of our untuned percussion instruments.	This half term our unit is 'Computing Systems and Networks'. We will be looking at Google as a collaborative platform and experimenting with how we can use Docs, Slides, Sheets and Forms to work with other people. Most of our lessons will take a practical focus so we can develop our skills more effectively.	In our design technology lessons we will be learning all about packaging design and how this can be used effectively to keep foods safe and fresh. This will include the exploration of how nets are used to make 3D shapes. Using what we have learnt, we will be designing, making and evaluating our own packaging for a healthy snack we have made.
Art	Science	PSHE
		
In the second half of the autumn term we will start our art unit: The Power of Colour. During this project, we will learn how warm and cool colours are created, mixed and used by artists to create contrast, depth and atmosphere. We will explore how colour choices can evoke different feelings, study examples from Aboriginal art and Vincent van Gogh, and apply our understanding through practical artwork.	Our first science topic is called 'Eat, Chew Digest.' We will learn about food chains and food webs and we will revisit interdependence and think about how living things rely on each other. Then we will explore the human digestive system, teeth types and oral hygiene. Our second science topic is called 'The Science of Sound'. During this project, we will learn that sounds are vibrations travelling from sound sources, through solids, liquids or gases to the ears. We will explore how instruments make sounds, investigate pitch, volume, distance and direction, use a sound meter, change pitch in different ways and use enquiry to explain the fascinating science of sound.	Our first topic is called 'Being Me in Our World'. In this topic, we explore what it means to be part of a class team, reflecting on inclusion, friendship and how our actions affect others. We learn about roles in school and how to contribute to our community. Our second topic is called 'Celebrating Difference'. We will explore how first impressions and appearance can influence assumptions, learning to accept others for who they are and question our own judgements. We develop a deeper understanding of bullying, including the roles of bystanders and witnesses, and practice how to seek help and solve problems safely. Protected characteristics are introduced including age, disability, race and sex. We will reflect on what makes us special and unique, learn to value physical differences, and practice kindness, respect and empathy.

Every week, the children have a P.E session with our sports coaches. During the autumn and summer term, one of these sessions is held in our outdoor learning area and the children are taught important skills such as teamwork, communication and strategic thinking. This half term, the children will be focussing on netball. They will be learning and further developing the skills around netball such as passing, shooting and positional play. We will also play competitive games and focus on movement in the attacking and defending phases of the game. The children will be able to work on their involvement with team sports and consider what they need to do and how they need to act to show good sportsmanship and become a good netball player.



P.E kit:

- ✓ White t-shirt
- ✓ Black or navy jogging bottoms
- ✓ Black or navy shorts (summer)
- ✓ Plain dark coloured hoodie or sweatshirt
- ✓ Plimsolls (for indoor P.E)
- ✓ Trainers
- ✓ Earrings out & hair up
- ✓ Waterproof trousers & wellies (for outdoor learning)

Coming up...



Monday 14th September

School photos for both Infants and Juniors.
More details to follow.

Tuesday 15th September

Year 4 will start practising a dance with Kala Arts to celebrate Diwali. They will be invited to join in and perform at the 'Light it Up' festival in Basingstoke on 23rd October. Stay tuned for more information.

Friday 25th September

INSET Day - school closed to students.

Arbor:

Please check Arbor messages and emails for these events and others that arise throughout the half term.

Home Learning



Maths homework:

Maths homework is set on Atom Learning every Monday and is due on Friday, based on current topics in maths lessons or recapping learning that has happened recently.

English homework:

English homework is set on Atom Learning every Wednesday and due on Tuesday, based on topics that we are learning about within our English or Reading lessons.

Reading diaries:

The children are encouraged to read at least 5 times per week and record this in their reading diary. Reading diaries are due on Mondays. If a child has not read that week, they will be asked to go to the reading hut on Wednesday or Thursday that week to give them the opportunity to read.

Contact us



If there is anything you wish to discuss with us regarding the information in this newsletter, or if you have any further queries or concerns regarding your child's experience at school, please do not hesitate to get in touch:

Class 4

Miss Katie King

k.king@oakridge-jun.hants.sch.uk

Class 5

Miss Harriet Cryer

h.cryer@oakridge-jun.hants.sch.uk

Class 6

Miss Ailbhe Davies

a.davies@oakridge-jun.hants.sch.uk

How can you help?



At the beginning of June, the children will be partaking in the statutory **Year 4 multiplication tables check**. The test is designed to check the knowledge and recall speed of times tables up to 12x12. With this in mind, please ensure that children are practising their times tables as much as possible at home. We will continue to be practising this in school with the children too!

Please continue to spark the children's interest with our **current topics** by discussing, researching and reading around this topic with your children.

We encourage children to have their **PE kit** in school from Monday to Friday in case of any changes within the school timetable. Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school so that the children can fully experience their PE lessons.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to an excellent year together!

The Year 4 Team