

# Class 4D Newsletter

November 2012

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed half-term!

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended parents' evening last half-term. I know some were unable to make it due to illness, so I will send out new appointments for those who were unable to attend.

The topic for our second half term is entitled 'Where was Micklefield Castle?' (And what was castle life like?) We will look at medieval times: exploring the many differences between the way things were and the way things are today. Our major focus for the half term will be history and we will look at the different types of evidence; discussing reliable and non-reliable sources. I feel this is a topic that the children will be really excited about and I welcome any artefacts, pictures or research which they may like to bring in for our display.

Within our topic we will explore the features of a castle, the Music of Thomas Tallis and William Byrd; the work and persecution of the scientist Roger Bacon; illuminated lettering; the Luttrell Psalter illustrations; and many other aspects of medieval life.

In literacy we will be working on improving our grammar and punctuation. Our numeracy focuses will be counting, partitioning and calculating.

We are lucky enough to have a group of students from Leeds College of Art visiting us once a week, until Christmas, to create a graffiti style mural. This will be created in honour of 'anti-bullying week.'

In the Spring term will also be working with an artist to create our own stained glass window, which will be displayed in school upon completion.

## Homework

Homework will no longer include spellings, multiplication tables or division tables. I have discussed this with the class and feel that it will be more beneficial to give children the opportunity for daily practice at their own level and pace. Children will rotate between individual practice, group work, teacher spot testing, and computer work.

One piece of homework will be set per week and will link in to the current topic or theme. Please ensure your children are taking responsibility for completing and returning homework by the deadline, as some children are still missing deadlines. There is a homework club in Class 4 every Wednesday break-time for those who require laptops or adult support.

### **School equipment**

As the weather has turned colder, it is important that all children bring coats, hats, gloves and scarves please! Indoor and outdoor PE kits, including trainers, are still required on a Monday and Wednesday.

### **Important dates:**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November:** Children in Need (spotty theme)

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December:** Christingle and Christmas Carol service at St. Mary's Church, 9.30 am.

Winning house non-uniform day and parents to lunch.

Kind Regards,

Jo Driscoll