



# Talavera Junior School

## Year 4 Newsletter

### Autumn 1 - Rise of the Robots and Raging Rivers

Aspiration

Integrity

Resilience



#### WELCOME TO YEAR 4

We are extremely excited to welcome you all into Year 4 and we hope that this will be a fantastic year. We have planned for many exciting learning opportunities this year including trips and hands-on learning experiences that we cannot wait to share with you. As you know, our first trip is to Legoland on **Tuesday 23rd September** where the children will get to code their own Lego construction!

This half-term will be based around our Science topic on Electricity where the children will learn how to create a working circuit. This knowledge will then be applied to our Design Technology project to create their own moving bug. In addition to this, our English lessons for the next term will be based on both short video clips and texts that include a robotic theme. Alongside this, we will also be learning about rivers in Geography with a focus on rivers in Nepal.

Many children find this topic particularly fascinating and we welcome any additional home learning that the children may wish to share with us.

Stimulus - Legoland Robotics Workshop

English:  
The Lost Thing

Class Reader:  
The Wild Robot



Science - Electricity  
Computing - Online Safety  
Music - Listen 2 Me music  
(African percussion)

DT - Scuttle bugs  
French - We're off to Morocco

PE - Fitness/ Gymnastics  
Art - Robots and Donuts (Eric Joyner)  
PSHE - Facing Emotions  
RE - Christian messages  
Geography - Rivers (Nepal)

#### KEY DATES:

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September** - First day of school

**W/C 15<sup>th</sup> September** - House Teams launch week

**W/C 15<sup>th</sup> September** - Clubs begin

**Tuesday 23rd September** - Legoland Trip

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September** - Flu Vaccination (Parental opt in required)

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September** - Charity Bake Sale after school

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** - Poetry Day

**W/C 6<sup>th</sup> October** - National Library Week and Aldershot Library trip

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October** - Fijian Day

**Wednesday 15th October** - Talavera Treat (selected children only)

**W/C 13th October** - Parent reading workshop (invite only)

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October** - Harvest Assembly (food donations welcome)

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October** - House event: Cross country

**W/C 20<sup>th</sup> October** - IEP drop-ins for parents (invite only)

**Thursday 23rd October** - Last day before half-term

#### ATTENDANCE:

**100%**

As you can see from our learning above, Year 4 is full to the brim and includes professional music lessons each week to learn an instrument.

For this reason, attendance throughout the year is vital. We understand that there are times when children are poorly but, as a school, we aim for attendance to be above 97%.

## Backpacks

Parents, following our communication in July, please be advised that children should not have backpacks.

This is due to a lack of space in the school now that we have 510 pupils.

Instead, pupils should bring their lunch, water bottle and reading record/ book in a **drawstring bag**.

Pupils should also have a drawstring bag for their PE kit.

We also will not have keyrings or similar items which hang from bags. We cannot, unfortunately, assure that these are kept safe. We have had items go missing previously which is distressing for children.

The school has a small supply of drawstring bags which we can sell for 50p. Please be advised that we do not make a profit from this.





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#### Homework:

Parent support is crucial to a child's education. By working together, we can support your child to make great progress. For this reason, we ask parents to support with the key components which underpin the foundations for children's learning. Although homework set is limited, at Talavera we have the expectation that it is completed regularly and thoroughly.

Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Thank you.

#### Spelling:



The first homework task consists of a weekly set of spellings which will be given and tested on **Mondays**. Spellings will go home on a label in their spelling books and we expect children to practise these in their home spelling books.

#### Times tables:



In June, your child will sit a government-marked times table test. This is taken by every child in England to ensure they are prepared for the curriculum challenges in Year 5 and 6.



Consequently, to help prepare your child for this, we ask that you continue to practise times tables recall regularly with your children, using their flash cards and TT Rockstars.

We will be setting weekly challenges which is part of the children's weekly homework. Children will receive their log in details within the first two weeks in September.

#### Reading:

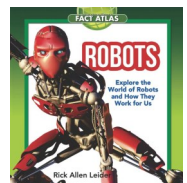
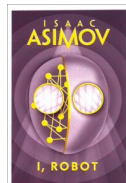
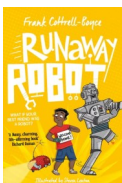


HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY SERVICE



Finally, our school expectation is that children read **at least 3 times a week**. This can be a mixture of their reading book, school library book or any book they enjoy reading at home; we just ask it is recorded in their reading record and signed by an adult.

This year, we have a whole school focus on reading for pleasure. Please remember: children are free to borrow books from our in school library or using the SORA app run by Hampshire library service that the school has paid the subscription for. On this platform, children can borrow a range of books including comics and audio books. Please also remember that it is free to sign up to Aldershot library where children can borrow additional books. Below are some books which are linked to our learning this half-term which your child may enjoy; many of these are available on SORA.







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**LEGOLAND**

As you are aware, Year 4 are going to Legoland on **Tuesday 23rd September**. Thank you to those people who have already made their contribution. If you have not done so already, please ensure you have **consented and paid on Arbor** to confirm your child's place on our trip. Payments are voluntary but allow us to run these events for your child.

#### Online Safety:

Online safety is embedded throughout our school curriculum. This half-term, your child will be developing their understanding through a series of lessons focused on being safe whilst online. To support your child further in this area, we recommend that you speak to your child about what they have learnt and how they can apply it at home. If, as a parent, you have any questions or queries about how to keep your child safe online, please do not hesitate to contact the school who can offer additional support and advice. Furthermore, there are some great resources available at <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/>.



#### Online Safety at home



We know that it can be difficult to keep up with the most recent trends online and how to protect children. We try to share the most up-to-date information that we have as schools. However, some key tips can form the foundation of keeping your child safe online:

- \*Check your child's devices to monitor their usage
- \*Limit screen time, particularly before bed
- \*Talk regularly and openly about being safe
- \*Hold your child to account for their language

#### Smartphones:

We are increasingly concerned about the impact of smartphones on our children, in-line with many other schools in Hampshire. Acknowledging the alarming amount of evidence and research about the negative effects of smartphones and social media, we are committing to making Hampshire primary schools smartphone free.

Please note that your child will not be permitted to have a smartphone in school, regardless of their transport home. "Brick" phones without internet connectivity may be accepted on a case-by-case basis.

In addition, we ask for your support in making the school mobile phone free in general/ We had a huge and positive response from children following No Mobile May; we want to continue this opportunity to greet your child with a smile.

Thank you for your support in this.





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#### Physical Education:

P.E. is a vital part of our curriculum, a government requirement and a subject our children enjoy. However, to ensure children are able to fully participate, it is vital that children remember their PE kit. Although we understand some children wear their P.E. kit to clubs, their kit should be in school **every day**. Children should bring their kit in on Mondays and take them home to be washed on Fridays. Below is a reminder of the P.E. days for Year 4.

<u>Indian Elephants</u>	<u>Bengal Tigers</u>	<u>Mountain Gorillas</u>	<u>Giant Pandas</u>
Wednesday (Indoor) Friday (Outdoor)	Wednesday (Indoor) Friday (Outdoor)	Thursday (Indoor) Wednesday (Outdoor)	Thursday (Indoor) Wednesday (Outdoor)

#### Talavera Smart uniform reminders:

At Talavera, we know the impact that pride in our uniform has on the pupils' learning attitude. We ask for your support in ensuring that children are Talavera Smart by ensuring they are in the correct uniform each day.

Please see below some key reminders:

- Children are only permitted to wear one pair of earrings **which must be studs**. These must be removed or covered with tape provided on PE days.
- Children should be wearing black school trousers/ skirt/ dress daily. **Leggings and jogging bottoms are not permitted.**
- Children should wear a white polo shirt which is different from their PE top.
- Nail polish and temporary tattoos must be removed before coming to school.
  - Hair which is shoulder length or longer must be tied up.
- A red cardigan or jumper should be worn in school. **Hoodies are not part of the uniform policy.**
- Your child needs to wear plain, black shoes. Please see some examples below. Contact us if you're not sure.
- For PE, your child should have either the Talavera PE top or a red/ white plain t-shirt, black shorts or leggings and suitable trainers.



If you are experiencing any difficulty providing your child with suitable uniform, do not hesitate to speak to Mrs Harman-Box or the office as we will do all we can to support you. **Please remember second hand uniform is available all year round on request from reception. We will also continue to accept and be grateful for any donations of school uniform all year round at reception including shoes and trainers.**