We are kind | We are brave | We are responsible | We are learners

Mount Pleasant Lane Primary School

Curriculum Newsletter

Year 4

2026 Autumn Term 2



Dear parents and carers,

We have been so impressed with the start that the children have made in Year 4. Their hard work and enthusiasm for their learning, both inside and outside of school is particularly pleasing. The run up to Christmas is always busy and this year will be no different. Please make sure to look out for our key term dates, including our P.E. day and homework schedule to be sure that you don't miss anything.

Miss Warwick & Miss Musson

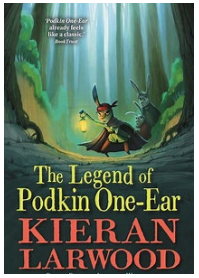
Key dates for your diary:	➢ Tuesday 17th November – Parents' Evening ➢ Wednesday 25th November – Parents' Evening ➢ Friday 11th December – Carol concert
PE days & kit required:	PE days will continue to be Tuesday and Thursday. Children should come into school on these days in PE kit. Thursdays will be football outside so a spare pair of shoes (and possibly clothes!) might be useful on Thursdays as we will be on the field. Tuesdays will be dance in the hall.
Homework:	Please make sure to log your reading on Boom Reader at least 4 times a week. Please also spend 4 x 10-minute sessions at a minimum per week on Times Tables Rockstars. We have our national times tables tests at the end of the year, so practice is vital. EdShed spellings and MyMaths are set weekly online on a Friday.
Contact us: 	Please speak to your class teacher on the door at drop off or pick up if you have a short query or message. For longer conversations, please email admin@mountpleasant.herts.sch.uk FAO Miss Warwick and I will call you to discuss as soon as possible. Please be aware that teachers are teaching throughout the day so will be unable to speak to you immediately.
Our recommended read:	 The Snow Spider by Jenny Nimmo. Gwyn's grandmother leaves him five gifts: a brooch, a piece of dried seaweed, a tin whistle, a scarf, and a broken toy horse. She tells him they will help make him a magician – but can Gwyn use them to bring his missing sister, Bethan, home? A magical tale for lovers of adventure, bravery and fantasy.

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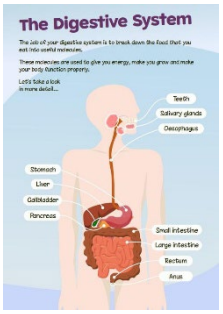
Our theme this half term is: Iceland

English:
We will begin our writing this half term with a non-fiction unit focused on explanation texts. We will particularly concentrate on catching our readers' attention with rhetorical questions, adding extra information and using cause and effect conjunctions.

Reading:
In our reading, we will continue to use our class reading book, The Legend of Podkin One Ear, to focus on reading skills such as retrieval, sequencing and inference.



Science:
We will spend the first few weeks of this half term completing our States of Matter unit with an exploration of the Water Cycle. Following this, we are switching our focus and investigating teeth and human digestion in our *'Animals including Humans'* topic.



History/Geography:
In our new topic, Iceland, we will explore many aspects of this small but fascinating country. On the map, the UK and Iceland seem very similar, but we will zoom in to find out if this is true.



Art/D.T:
Our DT topic this half term is biscuit-making. We will make an initial batch of biscuits and then the children will decide how they would like to personalise their biscuits with additions and toppings.

R.E:
We will be exploring the story of Christmas. We will analyse what is the most significant part of the nativity story for modern Christians.



Maths:
In Maths, we will complete our study of addition and subtraction before looking at multiplication and division.

Computing:
We will use Audacity software to create, record and edit podcasts.

French:
In French, we will introduce ourselves, say how we feel and have a wider appreciation for the country/countries where the foreign language is spoken.



P.S.H.E:
Our topic this half term is *'Celebrating Differences'*, which covers appreciating individuality and avoiding the bystander effect.