



Ladysmith Junior School Year 4 Learning Letter Spring Term 2 2020

Reflecting back on the Spring Term 1

What we have been teaching for the first half of the spring term:

- Writing a narrative that tells the story of nature surviving destruction
- Writing and performing poetry
- Written methods of multiplication and division as well as area
- Making a 3D map to show where the mountains are in the UK and America

What the children have most enjoyed learning about:

- How we hear sound
- How to use our bodies to create a sound dance
- Learning the names of the biggest mountains in the UK and America and making a map to show these
- Learning how to play goal ball and competing in curling matches

What we have planned for the second half of the spring term

Our topics:

- Science: Materials and their properties (solid, liquids and gasses)
- Geography: Continuing to explore where and why earthquakes and volcanoes occur

Memorable and inspiring moments, including planned trips and visits:

- Learning/practicing swimming techniques
- Building a seismograph to measure 'earthquakes' and creating a marsh mellow earthquake-proof structure
- Parents in to make instruments with their children
- Chemistry show
- Sallie Buck in to talk about the charity Shelter Box and the human impact of natural disasters

Key learning in reading:

- Complete Accelerated Reader quizzes
- Make inferences about character/time/place
- Summarise texts
- Consider the author's vocabulary choices
- Look for hints that help predict the storyline
- Develop skimming & scanning techniques when searching for information & facts



Key learning in writing:

- Use powerful verbs with adverbs
- Use humor in writing to entertain the reader
- Use a range of adverbials with commas at the beginning, middle and end of sentences
- Use paragraphs when there is a change in action/time/place
- Practise using synonyms and antonyms to aid cohesion between paragraphs
- Understand how rich vocabulary (verbs, adjectives, nouns) affects the power of writing
- Use the correct tense and person throughout
- Use apostrophes appropriately to show possession and contraction
- Use correct punctuation, and cursive regular handwriting
- Learn and use the statutory year 3 and 4 words

Key learning in maths:

- Know and use key vocabulary for fractions including: numerator, denominator, equivalent, simplify, tenth, hundredth
- Order fractions, including mixed number, improper and equivalent fractions
- Add and subtract fractions
- Find fractions of amounts
- Convert between fractions and decimals

Key learning in other subjects:

- Geography – where earthquake and volcano zones are and what causes them.
- DT – Making musical instruments using junk modelling
- Art – Art inspired by music
- PE – fitness circuits and swimming
- Music – Expressing music through art
- PSHE – relationships and growing up
- RE - How should we live and who inspires us?

How you can help your child with their learning:

- Practice times tables until **memorized and fluent**
- Help them learn and use spellings
- Read with your child each week and help them to record their reading in their Reading Journal. Complete Accelerated Reader quizzes
- Practice telling the time and working out time intervals, using digital and analogue clocks

Useful resources to collect and send in:

- Shoe boxes
- Cardboard