

ST. SAVIOUR'S - YEAR 4 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent/Carer,

Grab your wetsuit! We're going deep into an underwater world of incredible coral and mysterious sea creatures. Head into your local aquarium and learn about life in the ocean. Can you pick a favourite fish, plant or animal? Flippers on? Snorkel ready? Let's head into the blue abyss...

Our Learning

During **English** this term we will be studying 'Treasure Island', written by Robert Louis Stevenson and will lead us to develop our writing in poetry, story writing and adverts. The second half term we will read Demon Dentist by David Walliams.

For **Maths** we will cover area as part of our measurement theme, and fractions from our number topic. We will also be doing a weekly arithmetic maths session to help develop mental maths skills. After half term, the maths areas we will look at will be time and decimals.

In **Geography**, children will: Use maps, globes, aerial images and atlases to identify the world's oceans and seas. Identify their position in relation to the Equator, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn and the Arctic and Antarctic Circles. Use websites and information books to find out features of the different seas and oceans, recording their findings in a table or spreadsheet. Observe any patterns in characteristics according to where the seas and oceans are situated. Watch live webcams to explore the waters of oceans, reefs and seas.

In **Art**, children will: Look carefully at a range of aquatic creatures bought from a fishmonger or supermarket, including flat and standard fish, squid, mussels, and crabs. Identify the external features of each specimen. Use hand lenses or digital microscopes to observe the finer details, such as scales, claws, eyes and patterns, and make detailed sketches of one chosen creature. Use pencil, pen and ink to create effects.

In **Science**, children will: Sort a wide range of images of living things seen at the aquarium into groups. Re-sort the images repeatedly using a different grouping strategy each time. Group digital images onto a presentation slide, adding a title for each group and labelling individual creatures. After half term, our focus will be on the human body – specifically the mouth and our teeth!

Class Trips

Wednesday 31st January 2018 – Horniman Museum

Tuesday 27th February 2018 – Pizza Express

Suggestions for parents/carers:

- Maths homework books – one test per week
- Beep bop – a fun maths game that the children can explain to you
- Continue daily reading to develop fluency – aim for 100 words per minute

Important Reminders

Please note that we will be swimming at Poplar Baths on Tuesday afternoons in addition to our regular PE session on Wednesdays (please remember to pack a full kit including plimsoles). Kindly note that children will not be able to enter the pool at Poplar Baths without a swimming cap and trunks/bathing suit. Trunks should be above the knee and bathing suits should be one-piece. Swimming will continue up to February half term.

Finally, please don't hesitate to arrange a meeting to talk to us to discuss any points or queries. I will normally be in class welcoming the children at least 10 minutes before the bell in the morning, but if you would like a longer conversation then do come and see one of us at the end of the day or arrange an appointment. I hope you, like us, are looking forward to a fantastic Spring term in Year 4 😊

Yours sincerely,

Dan French, Karen Milton-White and Cheryl Wood

Year 4 Team