

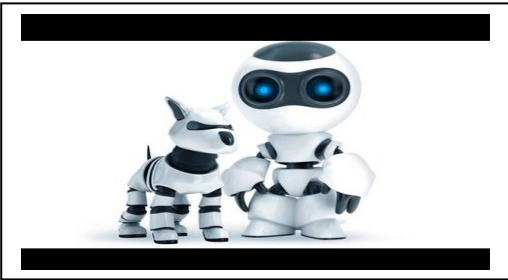


Welcome back to the start of the Spring term and an extra welcome to our new joiner and his family. We are very excited about this term's topic. We will be investigating the impact that robots have had on our lives and will try to answer the question: Could robots ever rule the world? We are planning a visit to Plymouth University to see their robotics department and to meet iCub, the Gummi Arm, Pepper and the OWL (their resident robots). After half term our topic takes us to Japan! We will carry out a country study and greet visitors from Tavistock College for a Japanese workshop.

**Please could you start collecting shoe boxes, yogurt pots, egg boxes, cardboard tubes, tin foil etc etc. These can come straight into school. We will be making some large robots so need as much 'stuff' as possible! Thank you.**

We are also looking forward to our Spring performance at the end of the term. The children will be involved in the writing and staging of this musical and more information will follow shortly.

Our curriculum overview is as follows:

<b>ENGLISH</b> Creative Writing Discussion & Persuasive texts Traditional Tales	<b>TOPIC</b> <b>Could robots ever rule the world?</b>	<b>MATHS</b> Fractions, Decimals, Measure and Statistics
<b>SCIENCE</b>  Forces States of Matter		<b>PE</b>  Tag Rugby Dance
<b>ART &amp; DT</b> Clayton Bailey: Life-size robots Robot Artist: Eric Joyner	<b>RE/PSHE</b> Religion and the Individual	<b>MUSIC</b> Brass Instruments
		<b>COMPUTING</b> We are Programmers

## Reading

We have a new scheme in school called Accelerated Reader. Your child should be bringing home a reading book with an orange sticker on the spine. Once they have read the book they can complete a quiz at school and start earning points towards prizes. More information, including how you can look at their account and receive emails, will follow shortly.

Please continue to sign the reading records every week and encourage your child to add their own comments. I am really pleased with the effort everyone has been making with their reading journals. Some of these are looking fantastic.

## PE

Our PE lessons continue to take place on a Monday and a Wednesday. Many PE lessons will be outside so please make sure your child has suitable trainers, tracksuit and coat (the small black plimsolls are not really suitable for lessons on the field). **Please make sure that everything is named.**

## Walking Home

If you are happy for your child to walk home unaccompanied, please let me know. I will not let them leave school unless I have your permission.

## Homework

Homework is set and due in on a Friday. There are 2 different homework cards this term so please remember to download the correct one if your child should lose theirs.

Some children have been given a homework (exercise) book with some maths worksheets stuck in. This replaces any other online maths homework. If your child does not have one of these books they should continue to use MyMaths and TT Rockstars for their maths homework. Please let me know if you are unable to access either of these.

Please encourage your child to hand their **signed** homework card in every week as the whole school competes to win the homework award - the class with the most signed homework cards and reading records wins!

## Equipment and Uniform

We are always amazed by the amount of lost property that remains unclaimed at the end of every term. Named items, when found, will always be returned to the child so it is very important that all uniform and personal possessions are clearly named. Please check regularly as names do sometimes wash off. **All children need a warm and/or waterproof coat.**

Finally, if you would like to speak to me about anything then please see me on the playground before or after school. If you would like a longer appointment, then send me a note or speak to the school office. Remember to check our web page for photos and additional information.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Kerr

Year 4 Class Teacher