



# Year Four News

September 2023

Mayhill Junior School, The Bury, Odiham, RG29 1NB  
01256 702 973

## 'What Choices Make Me The Best I Can Be?'

This term Year 4's learning is intertwined to answer the 'Enquiry Question' above. Linked with the enquiry question are three key concept words: **CHOICE, VALUE** and **RESPONSIBILITY**. As the children progress through the term, lessons will reflect on the question and its linked concept words, ensuring all children know what they are learning about, why they are learning it and the relevance it has to everyday life too.

### Mayhill Habit

Each half term has a different Mayhill Habit which the children will enquire into, develop a deeper understanding of and be able to explain how they are able to apply this habit into their own learning and life. This half-term's habit of focus is **INDEPENDENCE**.

### English



Our first text is 'Can I build another me?' by Shinsuke Yoshitake which fits beautifully with our theme 'Health and Wellbeing' and our enquiry question 'What choices make me the best I can be?'. There are many links with PSHE and the book considers the question of what makes each one of us unique, how other people see us and how we grow and change over time which lends itself to the biographies the children will write. We are also looking at 'You wouldn't want to live without dentists' by Fiona McDonald, which has Science cross-curricular links. The children will learn about types of teeth and will be aiming to be tooth experts by the end of this half term!

Please support your child at home by reading with them at least 3 times a week, and record this in their reading record, these will be collected in every Monday. Your child will receive spellings every week (Wednesday), and they will be tested on their spellings on a weekly basis (Mondays). Please support them with learning their spellings – it's good for handwriting practice too!

Please can we also take this opportunity to make a request for adult volunteers to help with reading or small spelling groups in the classroom? We really appreciate all the support we receive and the children love reading to other adults.

### Maths



We begin the term with a focus on number and place value. The children will learn to recognise the place value of each digit in a four-digit number, order and compare numbers beyond 1,000, round any number to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000 and identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations. The children will be using place value grids, counters, cards and base 10 to enable them to securely understand the composition of four-digit numbers.

**INDEPENDENCE**  
**COMMUNICATION**

**CRITICAL THINKING**  
**RESILIENCE**

**COLLABORATION**  
**RESPECT**

Moving on from place value, we will learn to add and subtract numbers with up to four digits using formal written methods where appropriate. Children will use their knowledge to solve addition and subtraction two-step problems in contexts and will practise choosing the correct number operations and methods. We will look at using the inverse operation to check answers and make links between rounding and estimating.

### Science and DT



This half term our scientific focus will be on Animals and humans and the digestive system. We will be learning about how carbohydrates, proteins, vitamins and minerals support our bodies development. Children will also learn the role of each organ in the digestive system to see how key nutrients are broken down and absorbed. We will also be looking in detail at the science of teeth in the breakdown of foods, tooth type and their individual specific roles. Through our work on healthy eating and links to DT we will also have a chance to explore what we need in our diet to remain healthy and how we can adapt foods to make them healthier choices for our teeth and bodies.

### PE/Games

Children have two PE sessions each week, with each session lasting an hour – including changing time. It is really important that children have their kit in school on these days. As the weather is now getting wetter and cooler please ensure that your child has black or navy blue tracksuit bottoms in their kit and a **non-hooded** sweatshirt (not their school jumper).

- **Activity 1: Tuesday afternoon - Gymnastics**
- **Activity 2: Wednesday afternoon - Orienteering**

We therefore ask for your support in encouraging your child to bring their PE kit home everyone Friday for washing.



### Homework

Each week your child will have Reading, Times Tables (TTRS) and Spellings to complete at home.

There will be further information about your child's homework at the meet the teacher session next week.

We are all very much looking forward to an exciting half-term. If you have any questions or comments about your child's learning, do send a note in or come speak to us at the end of the school day, on the playground.

Kind regards,

The Year Four team

*Miss Scholes, Mrs Lavers and Miss Collis*

### Dates for the diary:

#### **Meet the Teacher**

13th September, 3.30pm

#### **Individual School Portraits**

13th September

#### **Harvest Festival**

6th October

#### **Parents' Evenings**

17th October

18th October

#### **HALF TERM**

23rd - 27th October

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