



The Heights Primary School  
Year 4 Parent Planner: Spring 1 Week 4

Dear Parents/Carers

This week our themes are:

**Romans**

English	The children will continue to read Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo and will look for evidence of feelings, moods and attitudes. They will notice themes, summarise main ideas and make predictions about what might happen next. They will be writing descriptions of the island and also of the islands resident, Kensuke.
Maths	In Maths, the children will be using fractions walls, tiles and action fraction bars to explore fractions. They will be identifying equivalent fractions, adding and subtracting fractions and finding fractions of numbers. Once they are confident with fractions they will start to solve word problems and puzzles involving fractions.
Topic	<p>This week the children will focus on the Roman invasion. They will look at maps, from different years, and look at the areas occupied by Romans. They will use the maps to draw conclusions about which countries in Europe and North Africa were invaded by the Romans and when. We will continue to practice our song 'Just like a Roman' and begin to look at musical scores and notation.</p> <p>In Art the children will be designing their own Roman mosaics. In computing we will be using our new Lego robots and in R.E. our focus will continue to be on what makes a good leader. Our focus in PSHE is on Dreams and Goals. The children shared some fabulous dreams and goals last week and it seems we have an ambitious bunch of year fours who dream of becoming doctors, chefs and athletes amongst other things.</p>

Just a couple of things to mention ...

Firstly, The Heights staff have, in response to parental concerns, been reviewing the Cracking times tables. Tables are an integral part of the Maths curriculum and the Cracking times tables motivates pupils to learn these. However, we would like to stress that we do not expect children to move up a level every week as some of the higher levels are really tricky and may take several weeks. In school we like to celebrate all progress, even if it is just a couple more questions correct than the week before. Once children have reached their level 12, they have the option of progressing to level 13 and beyond. However, if they wish to stop at level 12 they can do so and will then do a problem solving task instead during the 3 minutes that other children are completing their Cracking times tables. If your child has reached level 12 this is something that you may wish to discuss with them as some children love the challenge of the higher levels and may enjoy continuing with these.

Secondly, just a reminder that children need wellies or old trainers in school that they can wear on the field at playtime when it is muddy.

Have a good week.

Mrs Thomas