

Spittal School Year 4 - Spring Term Newsletter

Dear Parents,

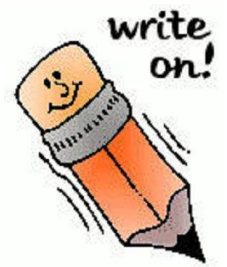
I hope that everyone has had a happy, fun-packed Christmas break. Please encourage your child to read their reading books at least three times a week and complete their weekly homework spelling and times table tasks. If you have any questions or concerns about your child, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Hair

Literacy

This term we are going to study two books. The first is called 'Winter's Child' and it's a beautifully illustrated fairy tale about winter. Our second book is entitled 'Cinnamon' and this story is very different, as it is set in India and is all about a princess and her relationship with a tiger. We will be working hard on developing both our handwriting and the content of our written work this term. We will also be improving our spelling and grammar.



Maths

We hope to explore division, perimeter, area and fractions this term. We will also try and solve more difficult maths puzzles and problems using our problem solving and reasoning skills. We will be working very hard on learning our times table and I would be very grateful if you could help your child with this task in preparation for the government's summer multiplication test.



History

We are going to study Ancient Greece this term. We will look at how civilisation developed in Ancient Greece and the legacy it left behind for future generations. We will also look in detail at the city states of Athens and Sparta, Greek soldiers, Greek religion

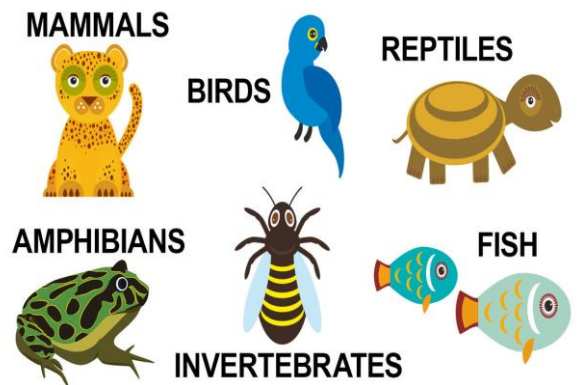
ANCIENT GREECE CLIP ART SET



and Greek architecture, sculpture and food.

Science

We will be looking at how we classify organisms in the animal and plant kingdoms. We will learn about vertebrates and invertebrates and study different types of animals for example amphibians, reptiles, mammals, birds and fish. We will look at how scientists classify organisms and the reasons behind their decisions. We will also look at classification keys and attempt to use them to classify some different types of creatures.



Computing



We will learn how to program simple sprites using the 'Busy Things' computer programming modules within School 360. Following on from this we will use 'Scratch' a children's programming language developed by MIT to do some slightly more complex programming. We are also going to have an expert led animation workshop which should be a lot of fun.

Geography

We will be looking at Europe this term. We will use maps and atlases to locate the continent of Europe and will learn about the countries and capital cities that make it up. We will also look at it's trading relationship with the United Kingdom and some significant human and physical features within the continent.



Physical Education

We will be doing P.E. on a Monday and Tuesday this term so please ensure that your child wears the appropriate P.E. kit on those days.