**Science**

**We will continue with our unit about sound. We will investigate whether sound can travel through different materials and how we can recognise and change pitch. We will explore the development of the hearing aid and how it has changed over time.**

**We will then begin a unit called ‘States of Matter’ which will explore solids, liquids and gases, melting, heating and cooling, chemical reactions and evaporation.**

**Computing**

**This term our computing topic is Systems and Networks. This unit explores the World Wide Web focussing on:**

* **How systems are linked through the Internet**
* **What the Internet is made of**
* **How to safely share informations**
* **What a website is**
* **Who owns the Internet**
* **Learning what to believe and what not to believe on the Internet**

**We will also be developing our touch typing skills using the BBC Dancemat program.**

We will be talking about:

- Joining a new c We will be talking about:

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- Joining a new class.

- Making new friends/

 Introducing ourselves

- Panshanger Golden Rules

- Why we have rules

- What would happen if there

 were no rules

- Building confidence and self-

 esteem

- Sharing celebrations

- Taking care of each other

- Identifying ways in which

 stories can

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**Art**

**We will be learning how to make our art more three-dimensional by exploring line, tone and shading. We will look at how we create perspective in artwork and used tones to make an object look 3D.**

**Maths**

**Daily lessons will include one main lesson and one or two short fluency sessions to improve speed, accuracy and reasoning.**

**The main unit for this half term will be on multiplying and dividing. Later in the term the children will explore measures and fractions.**

**The children will be encouraged and taught to apply their skills and knowledge into problem solving contexts and to explain their predictions, methods and results. They will also complete a weekly mental agility test which will cover all aspects of Mathematics.**





**English**

**We will begin this year by linking our English work to the class novel that we have just completed: Charlotte’s Web by E B White. Alongside this, we shall begin our new class novel ‘The Butterfly Lion’ by Micheal Morpurgo. We will follow this up with a poetry unit exploring the works of traditional poet Robert Louis Stevenson and create our own poems in his style. We will complete the half term with a non-fiction unit on discussion texts where we will explore the language used to persuade.**

**Design Technology**

**Once we have completed our Reusable T-shirt Bags we shall move onto a new unit called ‘Pop-Up Books’. This unit looks at how to create a range of exciting pop-up mechanisms. The children will make a prototype of each mechanism, then use what they have learned to create a short pop-up book for a young child. Hopefully, we will be able to share them with our younger buddies too!**

**A very happy new year to you all. Here is some information about what will be happening in Year 4 over the next few weeks!**







**Humanities (History, Geography & Religion)**

**Our new History topic is all about The Anglo Saxons. We will find out about who the Anglo-Saxons were, why they settled in Britain and what it was like to live during the Anglo-Saxon era. In Geography we are going to be exploring the city of Madrid and comparing life in Spain with life in the UK in terms of food, sport, weather and school. In Religion we will continue to compare beliefs and practices in Christianity, Hinduism and Sikhism, focussing particularly on special texts and special places.**



**The children will be exploring spelling patterns in their spelling homework this term. The new words have been uploaded to the Google Classroom (passwords will be given out). The children will also begin to receive other homework tasks this term either on the GC or in a book.**

**Your child is expected to read regularly at home. At a minimum your child should be reading at least three times each week. They should be reading a range of fiction and non-fiction texts which will help them to develop their fluency, expression and introduce them to new vocabulary. It would be helpful for your child to write about what they have read and how they found it and then an adult should sign this. On days where you hear your child read aloud, please record a comment to say how they did with fluency, expression, pace or vocabulary then sign your entry. Reading records will be checked by either Miss Maynard or myself every Friday.**

**Spanish**

**Lessons will focus on using adjectives to describe mood today and character generally, days of the week, months of the year, numbers 13-31, dates, interrogatives WH-questions with dónde, cómo, qué. One of the key verbs to learn this term is tener (to have) and the children will learn how to use it with singular indefinite articles (un, una) + noun.**

**General**

**A clearly labelled, indoor PE kit in the correct house team colour should remain in school on your child’s peg and they should have a correctly fitting and named pair of plimsolls for indoor use. Maths and English homework will begin to be assigned this term. All homework given will reflect what your child is learning in school, but they may still like your help to complete it at this stage. Spellings for the week will continue to start each Monday to be tested on Friday morning. Reading records will be collected each Friday so that I can monitor what children are reading and how they are getting on.**

**It remains important to me that we have an open line of communication. Should you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at school via Admin or through my own email:** **gail.burt@panshanger.herts.sch.uk** **I will endeavour to respond as quick as I can. Alternatively, I am available for face-to-face meetings on Thursday or Friday after school.**

**Year 4 will take part in the statutory National times tables test in June. We will prepare for this by learning and consolidating times tables and inverses up to 12 x 12. Please help your child prepare for this test by practicing these skills regularly at home using online programmes like TT Rockstars and Hit the Button. It is important that the children have quick and accurate recall of all their times tables and division facts.**

**We will have two PE sessions this half term and they will both be indoors.**

**On Mondays, we will start a new Dance unit called ‘Cold Places’. The children will create motifs around snowflakes, icicles, penguins and polar bears! On Fridays, have a yoga session where the children will learn some simple poses and flows!**

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