



22nd January, 2016

Year 4 topic introduction – How the body works

Dear Parents,

Over the next four weeks those of us in Year 4 will be following a unit of work on a theme that focuses on ‘The Human Body’.

This unit of work is part of the International Primary Curriculum. This curriculum sets out very clearly what children will learn – the learning goals – in three different areas:

1. The subjects of the curriculum. The learning goals for each of these subjects are at least as challenging as anything taught in the curriculum in your child’s own country. In many cases, the learning goals are more challenging.
2. Personal development – the characteristics which will help children become more responsible, independent learners.
3. International understanding – which will help children develop both a sense of the independence of their own country and culture and the interdependence between countries and cultures.

Each unit of work is based around specific targets derived from the learning goals for one or more of the subjects.

During this unit we will be focusing on Science, Technology and International.

In Science, we’ll be finding out:

- That we need light in order to see
- How we can make and hear sounds
- How human teeth compare to animal teeth
- How our body uses food and water
- How our heart works to keep us alive
- All about skeletons and muscles
- About the human life cycle
- Why exercise is good for us
- How tobacco and alcohol harm the body
- Which foods keep us healthy and why

In Technology, we’ll be finding out:

- How to plan and prepare a healthy meal

In International, we’ll be finding out:

- About people’s health problems

All of the work we are going to do has been specially written to help your child reach the learning goals. Children will be reading, researching, writing, illustrating, working on their own and working in groups. We will be checking



to see how well your child has learned through particular activities and asking children to explain their work, perhaps to you.

We already know the interest you take in your child's work. If you can, please discuss with your child the work they have done as the term progresses and let them teach you.

Show your child how to brush, floss and take care of their teeth. Help your child to find out how the heart works and how their pulse is a measure of how hard their heart is working. Discuss as a family, how you can eat healthily and get lots of exercise.

If your child has some work to research, please help them, but without actually doing the work. If you have the chance to further their interest in the ideas of this theme please take it, but your enthusiasm and interest is most important.

By the end of the unit, we hope your child has achieved all of the learning targets. We hope they have had an enjoyable time in the classroom. And we hope you have enjoyed seeing your child work with enthusiasm. If you have any comments about the work your child has done, please get in touch.

Kind regards,

Year 4 Team