



YEAR 4 NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN TERM 2018

Welcome!

Welcome back! I hope you have all enjoyed a wonderful summer holiday and that the children are refreshed and ready for the start of the Autumn Term.

Dates for your diary:

W/B 10th September – Clubs start this week

Friday 19th October - Visit to the British Museum

Friday 19th October – School closes for half term

Monday 29th October – School opens

Thursday 15th November – INSET Day

Friday 16th November – INSET Day

Monday 10th December – Natural History Museum

Friday 21st December – School closes for Christmas holiday at 2.15pm

Learning Challenge

We have plenty of interesting learning planned for the autumn term. Please find attached a summary of planned work for this term for English, Maths, MFL (Modern Foreign Language), Music, P.E. (Physical Education), R.E. (Religious Education) and from the International Primary Curriculum (IPC) units 'Brainwave', 'Temples, tombs and treasures' and 'Shake it'. As with all the IPC units, they utilise a thematic approach across most of the other curriculum subject areas.

The first IPC unit, 'Brainwave', will provide an excellent opening to the academic year as it focuses on ways we can improve our learning. The following unit 'Temples, tombs and treasures' is History led. Here the children will be looking at ancient civilisations, such as ancient Egypt and the area of ancient Sumar, which occupied the lower region of Mesopotamia. The coverage will include the way of life for the people of those periods - food, clothes, shelter, jobs, the importance of settling near rivers, such as the River Nile and the River Tigris, explore their belief systems and burial rituals, art work and also look at the first form of picture writings both these ancient civilisations produced. The children will then look for similarities and differences between these two civilisations.

There will be a visit to the British Museum on 19th of October where the children will have the opportunity to view at first hand the artefacts and art work from both ancient civilisations. In addition, they will take part in a workshop based on the mummification process practised in ancient Egypt.

The final IPC unit for the term will be science led called 'Shake it'. This looks at materials and the changing state of materials. There will be a visit to the Natural History Museum on 10th December. Here the children will see and experience, for example, the restless surfaces of the Earth, which are of relevance to the unit. There will be a show there for the children called 'Earthquakes and Volcanoes'.

P.E.

PE kits need to be at school **every day and clearly named**. Even though we have allocated PE days, sometimes PE days will change, due to unforeseen circumstances. Year 4's regular P.E. slot is on a Thursday afternoon.

Jewellery is not permitted and any children wearing it will be asked to take it off. Any earrings must be **stud earrings**, any other designs will be covered up with plasters.

Celebrations

Every week we hold a Golden Book Assembly where we celebrate children's achievements both in and outside school. If your child has recently done something that they are particularly proud of and would like to share their success with everyone please encourage them to bring this information in so that it can be shared in assembly.

Attendance and Punctuality

Good attendance and punctuality are essential and there is a clear link between progress and attendance. The children can enter the classroom from 8.45am and registration is at 8.55am. Any child arriving after 8.55am must come in to school via the main office and they will be marked as late in the register.

Other Information

If there is anything you feel needs to be discussed before the termly Parent Meetings, please contact the office to make an appointment to see me after school.

Home Learning

Reading: Reading, as always, forms the core part of home learning because it is central to all learning. If your child has not yet joined a library, it would be beneficial for your child to do so. It will be the children's responsibility to select a range of books, both fiction and non-fiction, and to read and write reviews on the books they have read at home if they wish to. It will also provide an excellent opportunity for children to talk with you about what they have read. As usual, your support will be very important and greatly appreciated.

Home learning will comprise of a 'Pick and Mix' format set on a half termly basis. It consists of a menu of activities where children must complete some specific activities and select some remaining ones based on a point system where they must total at least 20 'stars'.

