

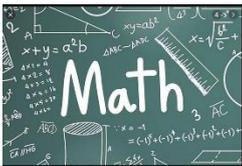
Lower Key Stage 2 - Years 3 & 4 Newsletter

Autumn term 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely break and are looking forward to returning to school. As you can imagine, there will be some changes to our normal school routine, including keeping windows open throughout the day to maintain ventilation in all rooms. Therefore, can you please ensure that your child always has a jumper with them in school - even on warmer days - as sometimes the classrooms can be cooler than outside. We would like to praise your children as they have adapted to all the changes within school fantastically and we are very proud. We will be having Mrs Travis and Mrs Hatcher working with your children this term making a valuable addition to our year 3 and 4 team.

Just a reminder that all children will need their own water bottle as water fountains are not in use. They also require plimsolls in their PE kits as they are no longer allowed to be bare foot in the hall as we cannot guarantee there is sufficient time to thoroughly clean it between classes. Trainers can still be used for outdoor PE lessons.



Maths: We will be studying Place Value (Year 3 within 1000 and Year 4 4-digit numbers). This is the understanding of the value of a digit depending on which column it resides in (e.g. 3: in ones is 3, in tens is 30, in hundreds is 300, and where that number sits compared to other numbers, for

example, on a number line.) Later in the term we then use this knowledge within the topic of Addition and Subtraction. In June, year 4 may be completing a National Times Tables Test, we are awaiting more guidance from the Government as to whether these will go ahead, however we feel it is imperative that the children continue to learn all their times tables. We will be continuing to use TT Rockstars this year. As well as daily practice in school using paper worksheets, please continue to use the online platform to practice times tables as much as possible. Children have the same log in details as last year - we will also be getting children to record their details into their reading records for instant reference.



English: In English, we will be focusing on learning styles and 'How I learn best,' letter writing, a large drama focus to build on confidence and creative writing. We have created our English curriculum this term to promote wellbeing, shared experiences and reflecting on recent changes.

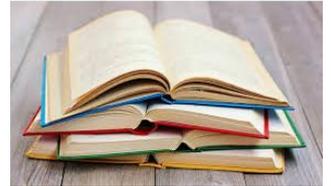


Science: This half term we will be looking at plants; how they survive and grow. We will also be having immersion days focusing on electrical circuits, magnets and light. If you would like to carry out any experiments at home, please look at the learning journey booklet (out tomorrow), where there are

links and ideas for you to participate with.

Homework: Each week this may differ depending on the lessons and learning taught. For the moment, homework is not to be brought into school, however it is important that your child completes homework given to support and embed their learning. We will monitor this at school as the homework set will be reintroduced in class through quizzes.

Reading: As always, your child will bring home 1-2 school reading books (fiction and nonfiction) a week. When returning books, they will be placed into a 'quarantine box' for the recommended time before being returned to the bookshelf for others to use. Reading is a life skill, improves their writing and children need to feel that we value them as readers. We would therefore ask parents (or any family member) to listen to their children read regularly at home and write a comment in their reading record at least once a week. This will be monitored at least weekly by the class teacher. Your feedback on how they are reading at home is invaluable to us. Each time an adult from school listens to a child read, they will ensure they are sanitising their hands in-between writing in each child's reading record.



Bug Club: (online reading books) continues this year - we will ensure that suitable books are available for them to read and complete activities too as often as they can. This is a great resource to help with reading comprehension as well as just the act of reading the physical words - both parts of reading as just as important! We will be getting children to record their details into their reading records, however if your child is having problems logging in, please see their class teacher.

Maths: By now, your child should have been given their Times Table Rockstar login. This is a Maths resource the school has purchased since it was widely used across the school last academic year and throughout lock down and the reviews from children were fantastic. It is important that your child continue to use this learning tool.

What you can do to help:

Maths: Please practice all timetables up to 12 as well as the division facts e.g. $5 \times 4 = 20$
 $20 \div 5 = 4$ $20 \div 4 = 5$.

English: Please could you practice these spellings with your child - both year 3 and 4 will be tested on all of these.

Year 3 Statutory Spellings

answer, build, caught, circle, early, earth, fruit, group, heard, heart, height, island, learn, minute, often, woman/women, address, appear, arrive, breath, breathe, disappear, guard, guide, history, imagine, increase, important, interest, question, recent, reign, remember, centre, century, certain, consider, enough, famous, forward(s), grammar, length, notice, strange, strength, though, although, thought, through.

Year 4 Statutory Spellings

complete, decide, describe, different, difficult, February, library, naughty, opposite, ordinary, perhaps, popular, probably, regular, suppose, surprise, various, exercise, experience, experiment, extreme, favourite, mention, occasion(ally), position, possess(ion), possible, potatoes, pressure, promise, purpose, quarter, sentence, therefore, accident(ally), actual(ly), believe, bicycle, busy, business, calendar, continue, eight, eighth, knowledge, material, medicine, natural, particular, peculiar, separate, special, straight, weight.

Online Safety: It has come to our attention that many pupils in Year 3&4 are using the mobile app 'Tik Tok', it replaced the app 'Musical.ly' which received much bad press due to safety issues. 'Tik Tok's' terms and conditions states users must be 13 years old. By default, all accounts are public so anyone on the app can see what your child shares. Please note that even if your child's account is then reset to private, their profile photo, username, and bio are still visible to all users on the platform. We felt it necessary to raise awareness of this app due to reports of inappropriate content being seen by some children. Our priority is keeping the children safe. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Here is a list of apps that we have heard being used by pupils in year 3&4, along with their minimum ages according to the terms and conditions

13+ years (with Parental Permission and Advised Supervision):

Facebook & Messenger; Instagram, Snapchat

16+ Years = WhatsApp

18+ Years = Grand Theft Auto

P.E: P.E. will be on a Monday and Thursday for Ash class. Year 4 (Hazel and Beech) P.E will be on a Tuesday and Thursday. In year 3 and 4 children are expected to take their own earrings off for P.E and put them away in their own tray.

Kind Regards,

Miss Collin, Miss Usher and Miss Moxham

