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*“Together we reach for our personal best”*

16 April, 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

We hope you had a nice break over the Easter holidays.

### **Topics for this term**

#### **Science**

**Power it up!** -The children will learn about electricity. They will understand how to make a circuit and adapt it by changing its components.

**Living things** -This topic teaches the children to recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of different ways.

**History** -We will be exploring Ancient Egypt and its location, whilst thinking about geographical features and map work. We will investigate the inventions and achievements of the Ancient Egyptians such as paper, clocks and the calendar.

**RE** - This term, we will be looking at what matters most to humanists and Christians. We will then move onto what religions teach about the natural world and why we should care about it.

**Art** - In Art this term, we will be looking at a variety of different Ancient Egyptian Art styles. Towards the end of the year, we will also be looking at artwork inspired by the River Nile and the pyramids.

#### **Literacy**

**Spellings** will be given on a weekly basis and will be taken home to learn. Both year 4 classes will be given their spellings on a Friday to be tested on the following Friday. Please ensure that your child learns their spellings, ready for this test.

**Reading** - Please listen to and encourage your child to read at home. It is helpful to discuss the content of the books with your child, to develop their comprehension skills and understanding. Your child will be expected to work their way through the Big Cat reading scheme, gaining certificates as they progress. Please remember that children are expected to read at least 3 times a week at home.

**Homework** - Your child's literacy homework will be set each Thursday and they are expected to return it by the following Tuesday at the latest. Please ensure that the homework remains in the folder that it is sent home in.

### **Maths**

In both Maths sets, homework will be set every Thursday. This homework will need to be returned by the following Tuesday at the latest. The homework will be based around the work that the children have undertaken during that particular week in school. This enables us to consolidate their learning and address any misconceptions. The new National Curriculum states that, by the end of year 4, all children need to know their tables to x12. If you have access to a computer, tablet or smart phone then the children can use Times Tables Rockstars. This programme is designed to help them increase the speed at which they can recall times tables facts. They will be tested on times tables facts each week in school.

### **PE**

In Year 4, the children are encouraged to take more responsibility for themselves and their belongings. This is helped if they have a full PE kit in school *at all times*, (shorts, T-shirt and plimsolls). This, along with the child's school uniform, should be clearly named. PE is a compulsory and important part of the curriculum. In summer term we aim to have PE outside as often as is possible, so plimsolls / trainers are a must. Please check that your child's plimsolls /trainers are the correct size.

### **Jewellery**

The only acceptable items of jewellery to be worn at school are a watch and stud earrings. These items **must** be removed for all PE. Teachers are not allowed to remove or put in earrings and cannot be held responsible for any loss.

**No** jewellery should be worn on Thursdays and Fridays which are our PE days.

It is also useful if ears are not pierced during term time as children cannot participate in any physical activities at school for 6 weeks afterwards.

### **Drinks**

Now that it is hopefully getting warmer, children are encouraged to bring a drink to school (preferably water, definitely not fizzy/sports drinks). It should be in a clearly-named plastic bottle. Pupils have an opportunity to refill their bottles with cool water during the day. Bottles should be taken home every week for regular cleaning and any bottles left in school on a Friday afternoon will be disposed of.

### **Snacks**

The children may bring in playtime snacks (no sweets or chocolate please). They should remove these items from their school bags and keep them in their trays.

Thank you for your continual support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs L Peel

Mrs L Crane