



Hatfield Heath Primary School

Hatfield Heath • Bishop's Stortford • Hertfordshire • CM22 7EA

Telephone: 01279 730382 • Facsimile: 01279 739023

Email: admin@hatfieldheath.essex.sch.uk • Website: www.hatfieldheath.essex.sch.uk

Head teacher: J H Clements MA

April 2018

Dear Parents,

We can't believe it's the summer term already! Where has the time gone? We hope you all had a lovely Easter break and are well rested for the busy term ahead. We would like to thank you for all the support you provide from home and would appreciate all your help again this term as it makes such a big difference to the children's confidence in different areas.

The children will learn about a range of different text types in English such as: non-chronological reports, fantasy stories, play scripts and poetry to add to their learning of the writing skills from the year 4 Curriculum. Children's writing skills are heavily dependent on their reading, and we know we sound like a broken record but we cannot emphasise enough the importance of hearing your child read at least 3 times per week. As the children progress through the school, the retrieval and inferential skill expectation becomes increasingly difficult. Simply being able to read doesn't mean their understanding is solid, and those children that read less at home are more likely to struggle to understand more complicated texts. This, as previously mentioned, then impacts on the quality of their writing. Please, please spend that little bit of 1:1 time with your child and make this world a little easier for them to access.

Recommended books to read for Year 4 pupils:

A Caribbean Dozen by John Agard & Grace Nicholls

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll

Beowulf by Kevin Crossley-Holland

The Dragon's Child by Jenny Nimmo

The Ghost Blades by Anthony Masters

Smart Girls by Robert Leeson

Brother Eagle, Sister Sky by Susan Jeffers & Chief Seattle

Flow by Pippa Goodhart

Dragon Poems by John Foster & Korky Paul

The Crazy Shoe Shuffle by Gillian Cross

The Chocolate Touch by Patrick Skene Catling

Fog Hounds Wind Cat Sea Mice by Joan Aiken

It Was A Dark and Stormy Night by Allan Ahlberg

The Dancing Bear by Michael Morpurgo

The Demon Headmaster by Gillian Cross

Emil and the Detectives by Erich Kastner

The Iron Man by Ted Hughes
The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe by C S Lewis
Mrs Frisby and the Rats of Nimh by Robert C O'Brien
Swallows and Amazons by Arthur Ransome

In Maths the children will be covering many different areas including place value where the children will solve number and practical problems, revise their knowledge of fractions, learn how to compare and order decimals and solve money problems, study the different angles, work on symmetry in shape and analyse statistical data to solve problems. Like with many skills in life, the best way to learn is through practical application. A great way to help build your child's confidence in Maths is to apply it in lots of different ways. Take them to the shops and have them work out the total amount and the change to be received. Make cakes or have them help with cooking by weighing out the ingredients required. When out on walks have them estimate how tall trees are or how far away gates are, can they see any symmetry in objects? Buy them a watch and ask them the time, or how many minutes until their favourite t.v programme is on. There are lots of ways to incorporate learning into everyday life so that the children don't even realise they are learning. Give it a go!

In other areas of the curriculum we will be looking at Science where the children will learn more about Habitats and the human body. In PSHCE we will continue our focus on British values and what they are, as well as beginning our 'Healthy Lifestyles' topic. This topic educates children on the positives and negatives to medicines, and the dangers of recreational drugs such as cigarettes and alcohol. This can sometimes be a sensitive subject, particularly the dangers of smoking, as children learn the affects it can have on the body. Those most affected by these lessons are of course those who have relatives who smoke, so can cause sensitivity from time to time. In RE we will be learning about Islam, with focus on the Qur'an and Mosques. PE we will have a focus on athletics and cricket, and of course swimming lessons will begin after half term.

Please refer to our school newsletters for important upcoming events such as fun runs, sports days, the summer fete, etc, and we look forward to inviting you in to see our summer term work later on in the term.

Thanks once again for your ongoing support,

Yours sincerely

Mrs Gray (Miss Barrow)

Mrs Snow

Mrs Coates-Reynolds