

Spring Newsletter

Year 4



Dear Parents/ Carers,

I can't believe where the time has gone but we are welcoming a new year in. I hope you have all had an enjoyable and relaxing time over the Christmas break. Mrs Bain and I have an exciting term planned for your child and hope they enjoy learning through the varied experiences we are going to have.

Our main topic this term is Egypt (both ancient and modern). We will be working in a cross-curricular style, linking subjects together as much as possible. History of Egypt, learning about streams and rivers in Geography, Food and nutrition in DT and making clay pot, (I have added more detail onto the school website). We will be organising a trip to a Museum in Manchester for the second half of the spring term that will be linked to our topic.

Throughout the term we will continue to concentrate on improving our standards of presentation, spelling and constructing different types of sentences. The children will also be encouraged to read a wide range of texts to continue improving their fluency, understanding and deduction skills. We will spend time teaching the children comprehension techniques, to help them to develop literal and inference skills. As part of the guided reading homework the children will be asked to read a certain number of pages and then complete an activity. I would be grateful if you would continue reading with your child for enjoyment and to ensure they are reading with understanding and fluency.

In maths, we will continue to spend time concentrating on times tables as they are vitally important if the children are going to make good progress. I will be teaching children about fractions, decimals and negative numbers. The children will also be learning about measurements and in particular, distance (mm, cm, m and Km), mass (g and KG) and volume (ml and L). We will also revisit telling the time on analogue and digital clocks, using these skills to solve problems relating to timetables and time difference.

Labelled PE kits should be in school every day, please. Our regular PE days will be Monday and Thursday. Long hair should be tied back and earrings removed or covered. I would be grateful if you could supply your child with micro-pore or similar if they need to cover earrings.

I always have an early morning activity for the children from 8:50am this is usually in the form of: handwriting practice, a thought prompt or a review of their previous learning. I would encourage your child to access these by coming in as soon as they can from this time. Registers are taken at 9:00am.

Maths homework will be sent home weekly on Fridays (except for guided reading homework which will be given on the day of reading) and will be expected to be returned the following Friday. Spellings will be given out on Monday.

- Spellings - these need practising and learning thoroughly.
- Guided reading - one piece each week.
- Numeracy - will be set on our My Maths web based learning resource. The children will have a log in and will be able to complete homework and play games.
- Occasionally there may be some theme based homework. This will mainly be research and presentation. It is an opportunity for the children to choose what to learn and how to present it.
- **We will be using the school website for a more collaborative approach to homework this term to enable the children to interact and swap ideas which will then support them in class.**

We would like to encourage you or your child to comment on their guided reading book/homework in their planner (this is the white book the children are given at the beginning of the school year). Mrs Bain will be commenting in each child's book during their guided read session so can you please ensure that the children bring the planner in every day. I will also view the planners during the week. It is important for us all that we keep the communication up and the planner is a good place to do so.

Finally, should you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate in contacting Mrs Bain or myself either before or after school.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Cotterill.