



Newsletter

Year 4

Dear Parents/ Carers,

The sun has been shining, the temperature is on the up and I definitely smelt a BBQ last week, so it must mean that summer is upon us! We have an exciting term planned for the children and hope they enjoy learning through the varied experiences we are going to have.

Our topic this term will be Rivers and Mountains. The children will be learning all about the water cycle, the journey of a river from its source to the mouth, also about how mountains and volcanoes are formed. As part of our Science learning, the children will learn about animals and humans and also about habitats of various living creatures. To continue our theme of animals and water, our class text will be *Oliver and the Seawigs*. By the time that you read this, we will have already spent a night away on the children's first school residential. Hopefully, we will be able to organise another trip for later in the summer term.

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. Mrs Bain 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. We 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 still be spending 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 Tuesday 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 a thought prompt or to review 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.

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 - 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 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). We 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. It is important for both you and I 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 me either before or after school.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Cotterill.