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Year 4 Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 (2010)

Dear Parents,

I would like to welcome you all back to school and I hope you had an enjoyable time over the summer holiday.

September is always an exciting time, for the children, they have the challenge of moving into a different classroom and tackling new areas of the curriculum. For myself, I am looking forward to getting to know and working with the children as they approach their learning in Year 4. If you feel that there is anything important that I need to know about your child in order to help them settle quickly into Year 4, then please let me know by either writing a note in the home school diary, or by making an appointment to see me after school. Any medical needs are particularly important.

On the Curriculum Map you will find an overview of the topics that we will be studying this term. Any research that your child can do on these topics at home is always welcome in school and will be celebrated in class. We have various reward schemes in Blue class to ensure we recognise all the efforts of the children.

Our class focuses for this term are as follows:

LITERACY: Punctuation Pig -

I can put a full stop at the end of a sentence.

I can put a capital letter at the start of a sentence and in the correct places.

When required I can put a question mark at the end of a sentence.

When required I can put an explanation mark at the end of a sentence.

I can put speech marks at the start and end of direct speech.

I can use commas in a list to separate the items.

NUMERACY: Times Tables -

I know off by heart all my times tables facts to 10 x 10.

I know off by heart all the division facts up to 10 x 10.

SCIENCE Scientific Enquiry Skills for Moving and Growing -

I can understand why I need to collect data.

I can carry out measurements.

I can record the results of my investigations in a variety of ways.

I can understand the need to improve my work and make suggestions on how to do this.

We will be swimming at Longwell Green swimming pool on a Wednesday morning, beginning on Wednesday 8th September. The children will need to bring in their swimming kit and a piece of fruit/vegetable as a mid-morning snack to eat when we return to school. The children will also need a PE kit in school for PE sessions on a Thursday afternoon. Initially we will be doing PE outside, so out-door footwear is essential, and please ensure all clothing and

footwear is named. Long hair needs to be tied back for all sporting activities and stud earrings will need to be removed, or covered in tape where this is not possible.

Starting from next week, homework will be given out weekly on a Friday to be returned by the following Wednesday. Your child will bring home a homework book with some guidelines included on the inside front cover, any support that you can give your child with their homework is greatly appreciated.

Please also encourage your child to practise their times tables at home - we will be continuing to learn all times tables facts and related division facts up to 12 x 12 this year with a timed assessment taking place on Thursdays when your child's yellow times tables book will need to be in school.

Spellings will be tested on a Friday and your child will also be given new ones to learn at this time. It is important that they have their purple spelling books in school on Fridays.

Through the first week your child will be able to choose a reading book. It is important that they have their reading book and reading record in school everyday. Please remind your child to change their reading book regularly and encourage them to share a love of reading at home. The children will also have an opportunity to choose a library book once a fortnight.

Mrs Knapp will be teaching the class RE on a Monday afternoon. On Wednesday afternoons the children will continue to learn the recorder with our music tutor.

I hope your child will be very happy in Year 4 as we work together to meet their individual needs. If you feel able to support in any way at school, such as listening to readers or travelling with the children to swimming, please let me know. Any offers of help are gratefully received.

Yours sincerely

Mrs P Foley
Year 4 Class teacher