

Year 4 Autumn Newsletter



September 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new school year. We have a busy term ahead and we hope this newsletter will outline curriculum coverage, events, routines and expectations for the autumn term.

Staffing

Year 3: Mrs Mellor

Year 3/4: Mr Cunha

Year 4: Miss Cork.

Our teaching assistants are Mrs Allatt (mornings), Mrs Duffy (Mon, Tues, Thursday and Friday afternoons) and Mrs Breen (Wednesday afternoon)

Miss Whittaker will teach in all classes during PPA sessions.

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Curriculum

An outline of curriculum areas for this term is included below.

Our topic for this term is 'The Romans'.

Literacy	Range following the National Primary Framework
Numeracy	Topics following the National Primary Framework
Science	Light and Sound
D.T	Moving Models
History	The Romans
Art and Music	Exploring
P.E./Games	Dance, Gymnastics. Invasion, Netball, Basketball
Design & Technology	Moving Chariots
ICT	We are Pollsters, Coding
Modern Foreign Languages	French – Getting to Know you
RE	Jewish Family Life and Celebrations
PSHE	New Beginnings

From Monday 11th September the children will be grouped into sets for English and Maths. The setting process takes a considerable amount of time and will be based on assessments done in the summer term, assessments that we will carry out during the next week, and through consultation with their previous teachers. The lower sets tend to have fewer pupils in and a greater teacher/teaching assistant to pupil ratio. We do intend to carefully monitor the children in all sets during the next few weeks and we will make changes if we feel that a child would benefit from a move. Please bear with us during this time, but if you are worried we would be happy to discuss your concerns.

Games and P.E.

Games will take place for on Tuesdays (Year 3 and 3 /4) and Wednesdays (Year 4). As conditions get colder and muddier, the children must have warm clothing and suitable outdoor

footwear which will be sent home each week for cleaning (if necessary!). The PE kit, however, will remain in school until the half term holiday. Please ensure that all children have a Games Kit and PE kit in school for the second week (Week beginning 11th September).

PE and Games will take place on the following days:

	Outdoor Games	Indoor P.E.
Year 3: Mrs Mellor	Tuesday	Friday
Year 3/4: Mr Cunha	Tuesday	Friday (Year 3's)
Year 4: Miss Cork	Monday	Swimming Friday

While Year 4 are swimming they will not be having PE lessons.

Swimming

Year 4 will have the opportunity to participate in swimming lessons this year. All children will take part in this lesson as it is part of the National Curriculum for Physical Education. The children will be going for 10 weeks. They will be assessed during the first week and split into appropriate differentiated swimming groups for their lessons. Please refer back to the letter sent previously which will outline in more detail the requirements for this.

Homework:

Homework will continue to be issued on Friday and will be either an English or a Maths task. This should be returned to school by Thursday, the following week. Spellings continue to be tested, when required, on a Thursday although there may be some weeks where the homework that has been set does not require a formal test.

Spellings and tables should be practised regularly.

Reading:

Reading books will be issued this Thursday, 6th September. Children are encouraged to be independent in changing their reading books and need to use the sheets at the front of their homework diaries to ensure they are reading a suitable range of books. We cannot emphasize enough the importance of continued regular reading at home in Key Stage 2. Children still need to read aloud and be given the opportunity to discuss their books with an adult. Please sign the diary each time your child has read – books will not be changed otherwise. We appreciate your support in this.

Homework Diaries

Your child will bring home a new homework diary. This needs to be brought to school EVERY day. The diary will be used to record homework, reading, important dates and can be used for communication between parents and teacher. The diary must be signed by parents at the end of each week and then it will be signed by the teacher on the following Friday.

School Trip and Theme Days

World Language Day will soon be here, and we are planning some exciting activities to celebrate different cultures and further our European language knowledge. A letter will be issued soon regarding what children should wear for this day.

This term, we are taking the children on a trip to Chester to visit the Grosvenor Museum. This is an exciting opportunity to extend their knowledge of the Romans – bringing their learning to life.

We are also planning a Roman themed 'dressing up' day towards the end of term. More details about this will follow nearer the time.

Help in classes

Additional support and help in classes is still very much welcomed and appreciated in Lower Key Stage 2 – please let us know if you would like to assist us.

If you need any further information please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Kind regards,

Abi Mellor, Mike Cunha, Rosie Cork, Sue Allatt, Julie Duffy and Carol Breen