**P4/5 Newsletter October 2017**

Dear parents/carers,

This term has and, with the excitement of Hallowe’en, discos and the Show and Tell evening it has started busy and I’m sure will continue that way. It was lovely to meet you at the Parent Consultations and I look froward to seeing you all again at the Show and Tell Evening – the children have been busy preparing the classroom and are looking forward to sharing their learning with you.

In maths P4 will be developing different subtraction strategies with number to 100. P5 will also be working with subtraction strategies but with numbers to 1000. They will be working with money and using addition and subtraction strategies to calculate total values and change. P5 will be working with values up tp £10 and P4 with values from £1 to £5. Measurement problems will also be used to develop real life situations for the use of these strategies. It is important that children see the real use for their maths work so involving them in shopping, calculating change, checking reciepts etc will keep them practicing and identifying maths in the world around them.

Literacy this term will be more focussed on word choice and organisation of writing. This will be explored in a variety of activities and writing opportunities. Language, memory and turn taking activities will be the focus for Listening and Talking this term. Although there will be no ‘Show and Tell/Newstime’ this term on a Monday, children are still welcome to bring items they wish to share with the class at other times. We want to celebrate achievements out of school as well as in.

The Social Studies topic will continue to be ‘Food World Tour’ and We have spent a lot of time in Scotland so we will be getting on that virtual plane soon and traveling further afield. The class will be visiting Elsick Farm on 8/11/17 which will give them first hand experience of the different aspects of an arable farm. Keep a look out for the photos on the Class Glow page.

The class Glow Page has photos and some writing as well as liks to internet sites. Please keep checking it for any new items when they are added. There is also a discussion board for the children to contribute to. This is another way for the children to share their learning and activities at school.

Reading will be taught either on Monday/Thursday or Tuesday/Friday. There will usually be a book detective task to accompany the reading. Maths or other homework will be issued on Monday to be returned the following Monday. Talk homework will be issued regularly on Monday to be completed by Wednesday. The amount of homework will vary from week to week and is diffiult to get the appropriate amount for everyone. If you feel that you would like to do more homework with your child here are some suggested activities.

* Put food out for the birds and then watch. How many different kinds of bird are there? Count them and draw them.
* How many autumn/winter words can you think of?
* Make a fantastic model with Lego, blocks, K’nex, junk etc. Then draw it carefully to show to the class.
* Think up your own adventure for the characters in your reading books to have.
* Practice your spelling words – think up a new and interesting way to learn them.
* Log onto ‘Sumdog’ and challenge yourself to earn coins for your house
* Do some research on an area of interest from the topic.
* Make a sandwich – what local ingredients can you combine and find out how they are grown, harvested and stored or processed.
* Complete the next part of your book for the First Minister’s Reading Challenge.
* Practice your times tables

Useful websites:

* <http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk>
* <http://www.crickweb.co.uk>
* <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools>

**P4/5 week**

Monday – Assembly

Tuesday – PE (shorts and gym shoes required) with a focus on different ways of keeping fit.

Wednesday – Art (art apron/old t-shirt required) with a focus on using materials and resources to create different textures.

Thursday – Science (Mrs Middleton) with a focus on lifecycles and how the human body/body systems.

PE with a focus on creative dance and Scottish Country dancing.

Friday – French (Miss Ruxton) with a focus on basic conversational phrases and skills.

**Dates for your diary**

Thursday 2/11/17 – Show and Tell evening 6-7pm

Friday 24/11/17 – Children in Need

Tuesday 19’12’17 – Cinema trip

Wednesday 20/12/17 – School Christmas lunch

Thursday 21/12/17 – Christmas Church service

Friday 22/12/17 – Last day of term

Monday 8/1/17 – Term 3

If you have any queries or concerns please don’t hesitate to come and speak to me. You can leave a note in your child’s homework diary, phone school or make an appointment.

Mrs Fiona McRae