P4/5 Newsletter August 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Fishermoss for another busy year. I hope you all enjoyed the summer holidays and it has been lovely to see the children all arriving happy and keen every morning.

The children have discussed the Golden Rules (please ensure you have read, discussed and signed the Golden Rules which are in the Homework diary with your child), the school motto ‘being the best we can be’ and have compiled a set of class rules. This is to support everyone at Fishermoss to ‘be the best they can be’.

* **Respect each other’s opinions.**
* **Keep the class tidy.**
* **Always get permission to leave the classroom.**
* **Don’t run around the classroom or area.**
* **Always wait for your turn to talk – don’t interrupt other people.**
* **Always put your hand up to speak.**
* **Wear your indoor shoes inside.**
* **Ask permission before you borrow something.**
* **Follow the Golden Rules.**
* **Work as a team.**
* **Don’t waste resources.**
* **Always try your best to be the best you can be!**

The children also need to be prepared for the day ahead so I would appreciate you make sure your child has the following with them every day.

- Indoor shoes

- PE kit (black shorts and a white top)

- Water bottle (if they wish)

- Homework diary and green homework folder

- A painting apron or old T-shirt

Literacy

P4 and P5 will being continuing to use Jolly Grammar as the approach to learning about grammar and spelling and comprehension to support reading and writing. The spelling sound/pattern will be supported with a variety of activities throughout the week. We will also be using some of the ‘Big Writing’ approach to build on and reinforce vocabulary, connectives, openers and punctuation. Alongside personal targets, the P4s will be working on adding more adjectives to their writing and for P5 the focus will be using adverbs. Literacy achievements will be celebrated regularly through ‘Star Writers’.

There will be an opportunity for your child to bring in an object of interest to show and talk about on a Monday. Please encourage them to do so as this is a great opportunity to develop presenting skills and, for the audience, questioning skills.

Numeracy

In P4 children will be working with addition up to 100. We will be exploring different strategies to help the children develop their skills in addition. P4s will also be building on their knowledge and understanding of coin and note values up to £10 and recording and giving change, making use of the addition strategies learnt.

The P5 pupils will also be developing the use of addition strategies with numbers to 1000 and using estimation and rounding to check calculations. They will be further developing the use of addition skills in different contexts and problem solving. P5 will also be working with money and giving change at least up to £10 using addition strategies.

The PSA have kindly paid for the subscription to ‘Sumdog’. This maths website is a personalised, fun way to support maths, so please do encourage them to go on regularly. Their username and password are in their Homework diary.

Social Studies

This term the class will be going on a ‘Food World Tour’. Children will have the opportunity to discuss what they would like to learn and how, incorporating a variety of curricular areas and encompassing sustainability, responsible decision making, climate, land use and the economics around the food industry. There will be a focus on the skills the children will be developing alongside knowledge and understanding. If your child as something they would like to bring in to contribute to the topic, please encourage them to do so and similarly, if you or someone you know has an interest in this subject and able to offer time and expertise please contact me.

The class will also have the opportunity to run a Fair Trade tuck shop on a regular basis working with P5A.

Golden Time

Golden Time on Wednesday is a reward for keeping the Golden Rules but is also a time for social learning – an opportunity to try new games, spend time with other classes and share with peers. Children can bring in a toy or game to share during Golden Time. However, as this is a time for social interaction and communication, no electronic devices/screens please.

Homework

Your child will be reading on Tuesday and Friday or Monday and Thursday. There will be regular Book Detective homework issued with reading and this needs to be completed for the next reading day. Spelling word lists will be compiled by the children on a Monday and sent home. Regular practice with the sound/spelling pattern of the week will support your child’s learning. There will also be issued activities to be completed with the spelling words – this gives an alternative way to support learning the spelling sound. There is no formal spelling test, however the challenge will be for the children to use their spelling correctly throughout all activities every day and assessment ongoing. Numeracy based homework will be taken home on Monday to be completed by the following Monday. Talk homework will also be issued regularly. There is no written element and Talk subjects will be connected to a learning activity in school. I appreciate your support with all aspects of homework and the benefits this brings to your child’s learning.

PSA

This year, Mrs Gibb will be working alongside and supporting P4/5.

This term:

Monday - Assembly

Tuesday – PE (fitness skills using a variety of activities for different parts of the body)

Wednesday – Art -

Library (fortnightly)

Thursday – PE (ball skills)

Science (Mrs Middleton – food webs,

Friday – French (Miss Ruxton – colours and basic French phrases and songs)

Dates for your diary:

Parent Consultations - Wednesday 27th September 6-8:30pm and Thursday 28th September 3:45-6:15pm

Last day of term - Friday 13th October

If you have any questions or you would like to discuss anything with me, please don't hesitate to contact me via homework diary, catch me at the door or phone the office to arrange a suitable time.

Mrs F McRae