P4/5 Newsletter August 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a good summer and found time to relax and enjoy the sunshine. I have been enjoying hearing some holiday news from the class as we all get to know each other better.

We will be spending some time getting to know each other and the focus in **Health and** **Wellbeing** will be just that – **cooperating, discussing feeling,** recognising and celebrating the **different strengths in ourselves and classmates** and where to go/who to talk to when things aren’t going as well as they could.

The **Social Studies** topic this term will include **Science** in addition to Health and other curricular areas. The class will be finding out more about the **human body, the role of food**, **exercise and rest** in a healthy lifestyle and **staying safe** online and when they are out and about in the community. Our topic will use the context of ‘Kensuke’s Kingdom’ by Michael Morpurgo to explore **solids, liquids and gases, engineering** and **technology** challenges. If you have any suggestions of activities, experiments, visits, visitors etc that could enhance the learning in class please pass these on by discussing with your child and writing in the homework diary.

Also linking in with the Health and Wellbeing focus this term is **Listening and Talking**. For **P4s** this will be learning more about **actively listening** to others’ opinions and **expressing** **personal opinions** fully. **P5** will extend their use of **active listening** to summarise alternative thoughts or opinions belonging to peers and **explain how to build on others’ ideas**.

The class will be exploring a wide range of different texts in **Reading** connected to the topic work as well as regular reading tasks to complete at home. **P4** are working on reading with **fluency** and exploring the **role and impact of punctuation** to aid understanding, whilst **P5** will be continuing to develop the **use of the context** to understand unfamiliar texts, focusing on phrases rather than each individual word.

Learning experiences in reading will be followed up within the **Writing** context. The focus will be on **organisation, punctuation, spelling** and **proofreading**. **Spelling** will be taught on **Monday** and the spelling pattern will be practised in different contexts throughout the week including spelling games and sentence work.

In **Maths,** the focus will be on **addition** this term. P4s will be working to develop and explore different **strategies for addition** with numbers to 100 and explore and extend their knowledge of **place value** to 1000. P5 will be extending their use of **addition strategies** with numbers to 1000 and **place value** to 10,000. The class will also be working with **measurement in length, area and volume, linking it to addition**. P5s will be exploring estimation of measurement, whilst P4 will be learning about accuracy in measurement. Please continue to encourage your child to use their maths skills when you are out and about eg. how many miles have we left to travel, how long to you need the string to be etc.

Daily P4/5 will be learning **simple phrases in French** to enable them to greet one another and have a **simple conversation about themselves**.

After a class conversation, P4/5 have devised a **class contract**. This is a set of rules that have been agreed to support learning in the class and help everyone to ‘**Be the best they can be’.**

**P4/5 Class Contract**

**We agree to keep these rules to help us learn and ‘Be the best we can be’.**

* **Show respect to each other.**
* **Ask before you borrow or take something.**
* **Put your hand up to speak instead of talking at the same time and remember to listen to each other.**
* **Concentrate on your own task.**
* **Try to always do your best work.**
* **Be helpful to children and adults in school.**
* **Sit on the chairs sensibly and without swinging.**
* **Line up quietly and walk silently and sensibly through the school.**
* **No arguing, try to always listen to other ideas**
* **Always try to have a growth mindset.**
* **Take your turn.**
* **Put everything away where it belongs.**
* **Remember honesty is the best thing.**

These have been designed by the children to use alongside the **Golden Rules**.

* We are gentle
* We are kind and helpful
* We listen
* We are honest
* We work hard
* We look after property

There is a section at the front of the homework diary for you and your child to **discuss and sign the Golden Rules. Please complete this section together.**

Reminders

All children require a PE kit (Mon and Wed) and can keep these in their tray or gym bag on their peg, a homework diary and green folder every day, pencil/rubber every day, indoor shoes and a water bottle if they would like.

Homework

**Reading** will be taught either on Monday/Wednesday 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 and will have links to learning in class. If you feel that your child could be doing more homework, there will be links, spelling activity ideas, maths ideas and Social Studies related activities on the class Glow page which will be regularly updated to include some photographs or other information about your child’s learning.

Weekly timetable

Monday – PE

Spanish (Miss Ruxton) – introducing numbers and simple greetings

Assembly

Wednesday – PE (Mrs Sayer)

Friday – Golden Time: Pupils can bring a toy or game to share with others (no electronics please). P4, P4/5 and P5 enjoy Golden Time together on Friday afternoon.

Dates for your diary

**September**

Mon 23rd - Holiday-School closed to pupils and staff

Fri 27th – School Sponsored Walk 2pm

**October**

Wed 2nd - Parent Consultations 6-8:30pm-details to follow

Thu 3rd - Parent Consultations 3:45-6:15pm-details to follow

Thu 10th- Last day of Term 1 for pupils

Fri 11th – Staff In-Service Day-School closed to pupils and parents

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