7Th September 2020

Dear Parents,

Firstly, welcome back to school!

A very warm welcome to Year 4 with Mrs Wood and Mr Wilcox.

Normally, we would be hosting a welcome meeting for you all, but due to the Covid-19 restrictions, this is not possible.

We hope this letter will give you a brief overview of what the next half term will look like. Please bear with us though, as we get used to the ‘new normal’ and ways of working within the classroom and school.

For the first 2 weeks, Mrs Thomas and Mrs Sanderson will be taking class, with Mr Wilcox- all in Class 4. I will then re-join class the week beginning 21st September. This first fortnight, the whole school will be following the topic of ‘Flight’. Each class will be following some simple, low key English, SPaG, Maths activities along with plenty of PHSE, Art, ICT and PE activities. Our priorities will be focused on health and wellbeing to ensure the children will all feel safe, happy and ready to learn.

**What does a typical day look like?**

From 21st September, we plan to have a rough 2 week rolling timetable, this is in order to try and fit in all the demands of the National Curriculum and the slight changes to our current day. (For example, incorporating the frequent handwashing and the enormous amount of time that this takes out of the timetable)! This timetable is very much a work in progress, until we find our feet- however, it does give you a rough idea of the typical daily structure your child will experience in Year 4.

The most important thing for you to notice will be our P.E days! **P.E days will be Monday and Friday afternoons. On these days, please send your child to school in complete P.E kit, and appropriate footwear.** Changing rooms, are not allowed to be used under the Covid-19 restrictions. Mr Mutsears will be teaching PE on a Monday, myself and Mrs Sanderson will be leading PE on Fridays. We aim to use the playing fields as much as the weather allows us to!

**What about reading books?**

Over the first 2 weeks, your child will complete an up to date AR quiz to find out which level reading books they will begin reading with us. Once your child has finished reading their book, they will be asked to put their book into the ORANGE quarantine box, in the shared ¾ area. These books will be kept as per the Covid-19 restrictions and then replaced into the library. Class ¾ will be choosing their reading books from the school library. In Year 4, the expectation is to read at least 5 times a week, please sign or initial your child’s diary every time you hear them read.

**How about spellings?**

Spellings should be practiced daily, we have a class spelling test on a Friday- we aim to get at least 7 out of 10 correct. In year 4, the children practice spellings daily but using a variety of methods- often wordsearches, puzzles etc.

**What other learning will be taking place?**

Literacy for this half term, will be learning about Diary writing and cross curricular within our topic of Vikings. There will be a lot of revision around the year 3 expectations regarding grammar and sentence structure. Once we are secure we will continue to consolidate this and move forward with some new areas of grammar to enhance writing. Maths will be place value and number to begin with.

In Geography, the children will be learning about the European region, known as Scandinavia. Particularly understanding physical and human features. In History, the learning will focus on the topic of Vikings, the children will develop an awareness of Vikings as raiders and invaders, and aspects of Viking life. Our Art will link closely to this, where we will use natural materials to dye fabric and will make Viking jewellery.

The Science coverage will be about electricity, understanding safety, making simple circuits and exploring conducting and insulating materials.

Our R.E learning is about the Holy Trinity and baptism

French we will recap what was learnt in Year 3, we will start with greetings, getting to know you, and numbers.

Music and computing will also be taught. Computing will be coding and e-safety. Music will all be focused about 70’s pop and ABBA!

PSHE will be around becoming a class team, and understanding the roles that individuals have within the school community e.g. being a school citizen and democracy of school councils. However, we will be constantly discussing our wellbeing and supporting children where and when needed.

**How can I help my child?**

* Daily reading and spelling practice.
* Times tables are a MUST to practice please. I know it seems very dull and boring, but it is essential that your child knows all times tables before June, when there will be national times tables tests as set by the government. It does of course, enable them to much more fluent with their every day maths learning, if they know their tables off by heart.
* Communication- keep us in the loop! Home, school communication together is vital to help us to support your child and vice versa. Covid restrictions may make this a little more challenging for us, but please do put any messages into the reading diaries, or leave messages with Sophie in the office. We may not be able to have face to face meetings in school, but we can always have a phone conversation or grab a quiet corner of the playground if needed. If there are any general class messages I will put a notice up in the big bay window of Class 4 for you all to read!

We are very much looking forward to working with your child for the year ahead and getting back into some new routines!

Kind regards,

Mrs Nikki Wood and Mr Sean Wilcox