

## Year 4 Autumn Information letter Terms 1 & 2 2018

Hello and welcome to Year 4. I am looking forward to the year ahead and want to wish the children all the best throughout this coming year.

Mrs Grant

### Important dates:

*Please check the schools weekly newsletter for any changes or new dates.*

**Class assembly** - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October

**Junior Sharing** - 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2<sup>nd</sup>

November, 30<sup>th</sup> November, 14<sup>th</sup> December

**Whole school sharing** - Harvest Liturgy- 5<sup>th</sup>

October, Remembrance Liturgy- 9<sup>th</sup>

November

**Advent Mass** - Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December

### Important days:

**Library books:** given each Monday from the school library, changed weekly.

**Reading scheme:** Books from the scheme will be changed each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please sign or initial in the contact book when it has been finished or if it is required for longer.

**PE:** Wednesday and Friday - kits can be brought in at the beginning of each week and taken home on a Friday when required, usually the end of each term. Winter PE kit of navy tracksuit bottoms and a navy hoody or sweater must be worn when the weather is colder for outdoor lessons. No earrings are permitted for PE lessons.

### Home reading

**Reading Books:** When your child receives a home reading book, once they have finished, this should be signed or initialled when finished **before** they are changed again. Books may not be changed if it is not indicated that they have been read.

**Buster's Book Club** - Each Wednesday evening the children are challenged to read and/or be read to for a target time. In Year 4 this is 20 minutes. The time should be recorded on the book mark in the contact book every Wednesday and are collected by a monitor on Thursday. Winning class announced each week!

**Tips for reading at home-** Look at the front cover/blurb together, talk about the meaning of the title/technical vocabulary. Look at the before reading/during reading sections inside the book cover of most home reading books. Talk about and identify the main character(s) and setting in the story when reading together, sequence the main events and discuss how characters are feeling at different times and why. Discuss any unfamiliar vocabulary and its context. Seek out evidence from the text to support answers given.



Throughout terms 1 and 2, the children will be looking at the following Independent Learning Projects: **Blue Abyss** and **Road Trip USA**.

### Term 1

#### **Blue Abyss**

The children will be diving under the sea this term to learn a range of facts and information about the Great Barrier Reef and the seas around the world! They will have the opportunity to look at and sketch a range of under the sea animals. We will find out information about some of the most deadly creatures under the sea!

There is a trip at the end of term for this topic to the Blue Reef Aquarium in Hastings. There is also our class assembly as mentioned above.

### Term 2

#### **Road Trip USA**

This term the children will be learning about different states across the USA. They will look at culture, tourism and history of some of the most famous places in America. They will learn about the Native American Iroquois nation and their ancient traditions.

The children will also be learning about Thanksgiving and why American people still celebrate this today.

### Question Time

To help develop your child's speaking and listening skills, we have Question Time on a Friday afternoon. This is an opportunity for a child in the class to share a recent experience they have had. This could be: an event they attended, a holiday they went on or anything of interest to them (football team, animals, hobbies etc). The child presenting to the class will do so with pictures or using a PowerPoint presentation.

The child who will present Question Time will be chosen on the Friday to present the following Friday.

### Literacy

#### Term 1

**Non-Fiction** - information texts - we will look at the features of an information text and research more closely into our topic. We will also use these features to create our own information text.

**Poetry** - we will look at a range of poetry and the meaning behind some of the descriptive phrases. We will then move on to recording our own poems focusing on descriptive language and layout.

#### Term 2

**Narrative**- *Gorilla* by Anthony Browne. The children will explore the book and its themes. We will discuss the characters and their emotions throughout the story.

**Myths**- To link with our topic, we will be looking at an Apache myth. The children will write their own ending in the style of the American myth.

**Instructions**- The children will be creating instructions to make a dream catcher.

### VLE

Additional resources and work linked to topics will be found on the Virtual Learning Environment (link on our school website).

Year: 4

Username: y4 Password: school

### Religious Education

Come and See topics for terms 1 and 2:

- People (Domestic Church)
- Judaism
- Called (Baptism)
- Gift (Advent/Christmas)

### Mathematics

**Term 1:** This term will focus on place value over 1000. We will look at the structure of 4 digit numbers and the value of each digit. We will identify 1000 more and less using the place value to support this. We will round numbers to the closest 1000, 100 and 10 and use this knowledge to support estimations. The children will apply their knowledge of 4 digit numbers to real life contexts such as money and measures. We will add and subtract 4 digit numbers using the column method, the children will use these numbers in a range of problem solving activities.

**Term 2:** Term 2 will focus heavily on times tables and the application of these. Children will learn to use the relationship between division and multiplication to solve questions. We will use related facts and the distributive law to solve multiplication questions. The children will have the opportunity to apply their multiplication and division knowledge to larger numbers and a range of problems. We will look at a range of shapes including angles, symmetry and properties.

### Mathletics

Your child has received log in details for an account with Mathletics. This is a computer based membership which will help your child reinforce mathematics learning in a fun and visual way.

<http://uk.mathletics.com/>



### Water Bottles

Please ensure that your child comes into school with a full water bottle to drink throughout the day. There is the opportunity to refill these throughout the day. Water bottles and replacement lids are available from the school office.

### Homework

Homework is set weekly and will be either literacy or numeracy on a bi-weekly basis. Homework is sent out on a Friday and is due in the following Wednesday. Spellings will be sent home on a Friday and tested the following Friday.

### WoW

As part of our healthy schools status, we would like to remind parents that Wednesday's are 'walk to school' days. Please could you encourage your child to walk, scooter or cycle to school on these days if and when possible. Even walking from further down the road if you have travelled by car would be great.