



Thameside Primary School

Year 3 and 4 News, April 2021

Happy Easter!

Firstly, I would like to say how lovely it has been having all the children back on site for the last few weeks. All the staff have been really impressed with how they have settled back into the school routine and on behalf of everyone in Green team I would like to thank you all for the support you provided for your child/ren during the home learning period. In the short time we have had all the children back on site we have managed to fit a lot in; learning about different jobs as part of our 'aspiration afternoon'; taking part in World Story Telling day and enjoying an enrichment day with a focus on our changing world!



Whilst this has been a strange term with a mix of remote learning and on site learning I have been incredibly proud of Green team and how they have adapted to changes and I am looking forward to leading the team through the summer term when hopefully we will be able to have all the children on site all the way through to July. Whilst I have thoroughly enjoyed stepping back into the role of Green Team leader I am pleased to let you know that following a successful interview from September Mr Moseen Khalid will be joining Thameside as the new Green Team phase leader, you can find out more about Mr Khalid on page 2.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very happy Easter; as the restrictions begin to lift over the Easter holidays I hope you all have some exciting plans which involve eating a lot of chocolate and let's keep our fingers crossed for some sunshine.

Mrs Burton (Team Leader)

Year 3



Next term in Year 3 almost all of our learning will take place through the theme of chocolate, from data handling to map work. Geography will focus on weather around the world. We will be looking at which countries produce the main ingredients for chocolate and finding out more about their climates. In maths our focus will be fractions and properties of shapes and in English we will be looking at recounts. In science we will focus on animals including humans. RE is one topic that will not have a chocolate focus, as next term we will be looking at Hinduism. We will focus on

Brahman and the importance of the River Ganges. If you are a practising Hindu and you would be happy to come and talk about your faith and answer some of the children's questions, please speak to Miss England or Mrs Fidget - we would love to hear from you!

Year 4

In Year 4 next term we are having a 'worldly' focus in our learning. The topic for the term will be 'Improving the Environment'. We will use Jennie Baker's book 'The Window' to explore how environments around us change and consider the impact these changes have. In Science we will be taking a closer look at different habitats and perhaps even trying to recreate a few of our own within the school grounds! This links with the Andy Goldsworthy art we are looking to re-create. In English we are going to begin writing Warning Tales next term, involving a trip to the local weir to inspire some dramatic writing, followed by looking at Argument and Persuasion texts towards the end of the year. In Maths children, will continue to develop their mathematical knowledge through mastery with real life word problems, developing their reasoning skills. Helping your children to know their multiplication facts over the holiday will be a great benefit.



Year 4 Camp

Despite the Covid restrictions we are confident that the Year 4 camp will be able to go ahead on May 27th! The £10 deposit is due on **Friday 23rd April**; the full payment needs to be paid by **Friday 14th May**. More information about the camp can be found on your child's Teams account but if you have any queries please email me at deputy@thameside.reading.sch.uk.



Meet the new Green Team phase leader



From September we are pleased to be welcoming Mr Moseen Khalid to Thameside. Mr Khalid is an experienced teacher who is currently working in a school in Slough. He is very much looking

forward to taking up the position as Green Team phase leader in September.

In his free time Mr Khalid enjoys travelling, playing chess and cycling. He also likes to watch football and he supports Liverpool FC. He told us one of the best ways to support him is to laugh at his jokes.

GBF have already met Mr Khalid when he taught a short lesson in their class and over the summer term you may get see him around the school when he visits for some induction days. I am sure you will all make him feel welcome.

Water



We know that children learn better if they are well hydrated so we encourage children to drink water throughout the day. There are **no** cups available in school therefore it is essential that they have a water bottle with a **sports top**. These can be bought from the office for 30p or you are welcome to provide your own.

Music



We are really pleased that rock Steady has been able to start up again along with Mrs Long's piano lessons. After Easter all the children in Year 4 will have the opportunity to work with Tess from Berkshire Maestros where they will learn how to read music and learn to play the record.

Swimming

We are currently in contact with our swimming provider to see whether swimming lessons will be able to go ahead at any point next term. We will keep you updated as soon as we hear more.



Homework

Supporting your child with their homework is a great way of showing them that you value their education and it gives you an insight into the learning that is taking place at school. Please ensure that you are aware of the homework expectations below.

Maths homework - this will be set every short term using Sumdog. We expect children to complete 30 minutes each week and this is monitored – please speak to your class teacher if there are difficulties completing this.

Own Work - this will be set every short term. We aim to provide a range of activities for children to complete that support several subject areas. Completed Own Work is shared with the class, a small group or a partner. Presenting these provides a great opportunity for your child to develop their speaking and listening skills.

Reading - It is expected that children read for 10 minutes each night and that a comment is recorded, either by the child or an adult. Reading records will be checked regularly to monitor reading at home.

Swimming lessons

Due to Covid restrictions we are still waiting to see if it will be possible to have any swimming lesson during the summer term. We are currently liaising with our swimming provider and will keep you updated as soon as we hear anything.



PE kits and clothing

It is important that your child has the correct PE kit in school at all times. Year 3 have lessons on Mondays and Wednesdays and Year 4 Thursday and Friday for (GCO). As we develop our outdoor curriculum, it is important that your child has the correct outdoor clothing e.g. raincoats and sun hats, especially with our unpredictable weather! We aim to use the outdoor environment to teach across the curriculum, therefore not only will your children be outside during break and lunchtime but they could also be applying their skills in any subject!