



Thameside Primary School Year 3 and 4 News December 2018

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

At the end of our first term of the new academic year, I would like to say a huge thank you to all you parents/carers for supporting your child's learning in so many ways; helping with homework, own work projects, attending events such as the curriculum sharing evening and class assemblies as well as coming into classrooms afterwards to work with your children.

It has been really rewarding to see how well the children have settled into their new classes, fully embracing all aspects of their learning this term. I have had many visitors coming to share some of the fantastic work they have been producing and I know Mrs Wallace has had many too which is brilliant! Speaking of the main lady herself, we wish Mrs Wallace a very happy retirement and know that she will be missed by all staff and children. Rest assured that we will work hard to ensure a smooth transition until the new Headteacher is appointed. We all wish you a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you again in the New Year.

Miss Maddock (Team Leader)



Year 3



Hail Caesar! After Christmas, Year 3 will be learning about the Romans. In History, the children will be finding out about Roman invasions, armies and daily life. They will also have the opportunity to cook some of their very own Roman food that they will then get to try. In Maths they will be learning how to multiply and divide as well as solving real-life problems. In Art, we will focus on Roman mosaics and in Science we will be looking at light and shadow. In English, the children will be looking at Tales of Fear and the type of language used in these stories. This term RE will focus on Christianity, where the children will have the opportunity to discuss miracles and explore the importance of Good Friday for Christians. We will be learning about the importance of 'Moving Outside' in PSHE. The children will continue to enjoy gymnastics lessons taught by Michal and will work on their hockey skills during outdoor PE sessions. The term will end with an Easter Production where the children will showcase their acting, singing and dancing skills (dates to be confirmed nearer the time).

Year 4

In January, Year 4 will be learning about life in the Viking times in our history topic. We will explore what life would be like on a longboat and we are looking forward to our Viking Day that will take place on Monday 11th February! Our art will focus on using a range of media to create our own Viking seascape. Maths will focus on multiplication, fractions and decimals (please refer to the school website, curriculum, mathematics for a more detailed breakdown of the maths objectives). In English we will be creating and writing our own meeting tales and discussion texts based on Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. Throughout all English teaching there will be a strong emphasis on spelling and grammar (please refer to the school website, curriculum, English for more information about the grammar objectives and a weekly spelling breakdown). Science will focus on animals, including humans where the children will explore the importance of a balanced diet and investigate the effects of exercise on their body. This will link closely to our PE sessions where gymnastics and dance will be the focus for indoor sessions, while outdoor PE will focus on invasion games. The children will continue to learn about special places and how different faiths worship in RE, while in PSHE children will be investigating the key 'Move Outside'.



<p>PE kits and clothing</p> <p>It is important that your child has the correct PE kit in school at all times. For indoor PE children need shorts and a t-shirt and for outdoor PE we recommend shorts/tracksuit trousers, a t-shirt and a sweatshirt, especially when the weather turns colder. All PE kit should be plain and not have logos or slogans.</p> <p>As we develop our outdoor curriculum it is important that your child has the correct outdoor clothing e.g. warm waterproof coat, hat and gloves when the weather turns colder. We aim to use the outdoor environment to teach across the curriculum, therefore not only will your children be outside during break and lunchtime they could also be applying their maths skills in a maths lesson!</p>	<p>Water</p>  <p>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.</p>
<p>Facebook/Twitter</p>  <p>If you haven't already, 'like' our pages on Facebook and Twitter for regular blog updates and to see what has been happening across the whole school. Photos are posted daily so don't miss out on seeing what your child has been up to!</p>	<p>Website</p> <p>Our website contains a wealth of information to help keep you informed of what is happening at school. Please check out the curriculum pages to find out more about each particular subject area and the letters home page to ensure you don't miss any important information.</p>  <p>Times Tables</p>  <p>Next year, the Government are introducing a times tables assessment for all Year 4 children. We have begun practising for this throughout Green Team and would like to emphasise the importance of times table practice at home too. 'Every little helps', the key being little and often!</p>
<p>Homework</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	
<p>Key Dates</p> <p>Own Work out: Friday 11th January Ready Steady Cook Event: Tuesday 15th January Own Work due in: Monday 28th January Enrichment Day: Thursday 7th February Year 4 Viking Day: Monday 11th February Own Work out: Friday 1st March Parent-Teacher Meetings: Monday 4th/Wednesday 6th March World Book Day: Thursday 7th March Own Work due in: Monday 11th March Aspiration Afternoon: Thursday 14th March Own Work out: Friday 5th April Own Work due in: Monday 29th April (After Easter hols)</p> 	<p>Thameside Bank</p> <p>Mrs Moffatt runs the school bank where children are able to open accounts; this is especially helpful for those that are saving up for the Year 4 Camp! All accounts are held with Berkshire Credit Union and interest is paid annually. If your child is interested in opening an account, please come to the Library on a Tuesday morning from 8:30am onwards where Mrs Moffatt will be there to assist you.</p> 