



# Thameside Primary School

## Year 3 and 4 News, April 2019

### Happy Easter!

Let the chocolate feast begin, Easter is here! Once again, there has been lots of exciting learning in Green Team this term. Year 4 had a brilliant Viking day back in February led by Thameside staff with a day of interesting hands-on activities whilst dressed up in their historic Viking outfits. World Book Day was great fun this year with the theme of Magical, Mythical, Mysterious - there were a lot of characters from Harry Potter and some fantastically quirky costumes, such as Mr Tumnus, Mary Poppins and Percy Jackson! Just this week, Year 3 put on their amazing production of 'Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies' which they performed to both the school and parents - Year 6 have a lot to live up to with their production in the Summer term now! A lot of hard work goes into these productions so a huge thank you to Miss Huxley, Miss Stokes, Mrs Stone, Miss Sheppard, Miss Poffley and Mr Huxford as well as Mrs Genna for all her help with the wonderful costumes and scenery that really brought the production to life! Most importantly, a huge well done to all the children for their effort into learning their lines and bringing just the right amount of drama into the production - you absolutely excelled yourselves and should be incredibly proud! Finally, as the term draws to a close I would like to wish you all a very happy Easter; I hope you all have some exciting plans with your families over the holidays which involve a lot of chocolate! Let's keep our fingers crossed for some sunshine.



Miss Maddock (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. Following the success of the chocolate factory last year, we will develop our maths skills when setting up our very own mini factory and in English we will be look at quest stories and persuasive writing. In science we will focus on animals. 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 Huxley or Miss Stokes - 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. Children will then begin a new unit focused on 'Wimbledon', researching and thinking about the logistics involved in organising such a high profile British sporting event. 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! 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 Non-Chronological Reports and Poetry 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. Berkshire Maestros will continue to come in weekly to teach music and children will perform in a special assembly on the 26th June in the afternoon which you are all welcome to come to in order to see what they have been learning to play on the fife and clarinet so far this year. Put it in your diary!



### Year 4 Camp

On May 16th at 3:15pm Year 4 children will begin their camp experience! This will be a really fun experience for all the children with fire building practice, first aid, food preparation, tent building, survival skills and even the opportunity to try eating bugs! Parents are required to come to a compulsory meeting about the camp on either Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 3.30pm or Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm in GHM. Attendance will be recorded. The £10 deposit was due on the 25<sup>th</sup> March, if you haven't paid this already please visit the school office as soon as possible; the full payment needs to be paid by Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May. If you have any queries please see myself or Ms Lazor.



### Swimming lessons

This term all children in Green team will take part in swimming lessons on a Monday morning at Queen Anne's school. Please ensure children arrive promptly to school and that they have their swimming kit with them (children should bring goggles).



### 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 Wednesdays and Year 4 on Thursdays (GAL) and Fridays (GHM). 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!

### 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.

### Year 3 Handwriting

Please help to remind your child to only complete the page that they have completed at school to ensure they form their letters correctly. Children have made great progress with their handwriting and lots of children have been given their pen license already this year!



### 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.

### Website

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.



### Facebook/Twitter

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!



### Thameside Bank

Mrs Moffatt runs the school bank where children are able to open accounts. 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.

