



Year 3 and 4 Newsletter

Dear Parents

I write to wish you all a Happy New Year and to tell you a little of what will be happening in Years 3 and 4 during the rest of this term. The spring term will be both busy and extremely productive with lots to look forward to, most notably the Year 4 production of 'The Dracula Rock Show' which promises to provide great entertainment! There will also be special weeks celebrating the art of storytelling and STEM (science, technology and maths), involving visitors and a variety of special activities.

Attached to this newsletter are brief details aimed at providing you with further information specific to Years 3 and 4 regarding the topics to be covered and planned events in the coming weeks. Please bear in mind that any information and dates provided are correct at the time of writing and represent highlights rather than a comprehensive list. For more detailed information about events at the school, please continue to look out for the Headmaster's weekly newsletter, which is sent every Friday, and continue to monitor the School's online calendar. You can access the online 'Parents' Information Centre' by using the link on the main page of the school website.

Homework will continue to be set in the same format as last term, with a 20 minute subject specific task followed by with 10 minutes reading. Again, good nightly routines are encouraged to help the children complete their homework effectively. I would also reiterate the importance of fully completing reading homework, wherever possible in the presence of an adult who is able to discuss the book and help with answering one of the comprehension questions each night. As previously, the children are well rewarded for a fully completed reading record.

This time of year is the perfect time to ensure that all of your child's equipment and clothing is present and labelled, so that any missing items can be tracked down or replaced. We have carried out an informal kit and equipment check this week to identify any missing items to assist you with this. This term the boys will have a combination of hockey and football lessons, so will need both a mouth guard and shin pads in order to participate fully and safely in lessons. The girls will have netball, so will not require mouth guards, shin pads or long socks. Both boys and girls will need a pair of indoor trainers in school.

With very best wishes,

Daniel Avenal
Head of Years 3 and 4

Topics this Term

Year 3

English lessons this term will be focused on dialogue and plays, recounts, stories about imaginary worlds, and traditional and humorous poetry. Mathematics will focus on addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, number and place value, fractions, ratio and proportion, 2D & 3D shapes, angles and telling the time. In science, the children will be learning more about forces and magnets, as well as teeth and eating, the digestive system and rocks and soils. We will be studying the Ancient Egyptians in history lessons and our geography topic is weather and climate. In religious studies the children will be learning about sacred places and, in particular, the Christian church.

Year 4

English lessons this term will be focused on poetry (including list poems, kennings and clerihews), fantasy and imaginative stories and information and explanation texts. Mathematics will focus on place value, addition and subtraction, fractions, decimals and percentages, measurement and 2D & 3D shapes. In science, the children will be learning about states of matter and electricity. We will be studying invaders in history, looking in particular at the Anglos Saxons and Vikings. Our geography topic is investigating coasts and in religious studies the children will be learning more about Judaism and the importance of the Synagogue.

Further information regarding the curriculum is available in the parents' section of the website.

| Important Dates | Events for Parents |
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| Thursday 18 th January – Year 3 Castle Visit Friday 2 rd February – Year 4 Synagogue Trip Friday 9 th February – Year 3 Reports Home Monday 5 th March – Year 4 West Stow Trip | Year 4 Production 'The Dracula Rock Show!' Performance 1: Thursday 25 th January (4.30pm) Performance 2: Friday 26 th January (6.00pm) |
| Year 4 Horstead Residential | Tuesday 30 th January – Year 4 Parents' Evening Wednesday 21 st February – Year 4 Soloists' Concert Wednesday 14 th March – 3A Class Assembly (8.35am) Wednesday 21 st March – 3H Class Assembly (8.35am) Wednesday 25 th April – 3V Class Assembly (8.35am) |
| The Year 4 residential visit to Horstead will take place from Wednesday 6 th to Friday 8 th June 2017. | |
| Useful Websites | |
| http://primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/ http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/ http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/levels/zbr9wmn http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zcixhyc/resources/1 http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zg87xnb http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/2641181 | http://www.childrensuniversity.manchester.ac.uk http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zxsbcdm http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/ztyr9j6 http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/riversandcoasts/coasts/watis_coast/index.shtml http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/coastline |