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September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Hello and welcome to Year 4!

The Year 4 class team this year will be Miss Hall, Mrs Virgoe (covering my PPA time) – both of whom your children will know from last year, of course, Mrs Shah (who will be doing some times tables booster work) and myself. We are all looking forward to having your children into class for the exciting year ahead.

Topic: Long, long ago

This will be the main focus for our work for this term as we will be building our English and Art work around it. We will be looking at the period of time from the Stone Age through to the Iron Age, looking at the similarities and differences between life in the Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze and Iron Ages. We are also lucky enough to have not one, but two sets of visitors to run workshops on the Stone Age (in September) and the Bronze Age (in October). Should be fun. We will be producing a fact file about one of these periods in English and doing some Stone Age art as a lead into our wider Art topic where we can compare and contrast this with the work of the Pop artists.

P.E.

In changes from previous years we are trialling swimming for one year group for the entirety of the year. It was felt that a prolonged session would be useful for developing or honing swimming technique properly. Year 4 is the chosen year group, and swimming will happen on Wednesday afternoons at White Meadows pool (which we will walk to). Also, this year, we are going to try having our sports day in October, rather than the final term, which always feels a bit congested.

Key dates for this half term:

- Tuesday 5th September Return to school after Easter Holidays
- <u>Tuesday 19th September</u> Rockstar day come to school dressed as a rockstar (to support our TT Rockstars push)
- Friday 22nd September Mufti day Jeans for genes
- <u>Tuesday 9th September</u> Stone Age workshop
- Wednesday 4th October Harvest
- <u>Tuesday 10th October</u> Bronze Age workshop
- Monday 16th Friday 20th October Anti-bullying/Personal Development week details to follow
- Wednesday 18th October Sports Day
- Friday 20th October Last day of term

Things to remember:













- ❖ Your child will have **P.E. on Mondays and Wednesdays (swimming)**. Children are allowed to wear tracksuit bottoms and sweatshirts for outdoor P.E.
- ❖ We are clinging on to some warm weather, but we are moving into Autumn and we do like the children to be outside as much as possible during break and lunchtime even if it is lightly drizzling. Please ensure therefore that your child has a waterproof coat with them every day.
- ❖ Your child can bring a healthy snack (fruit or vegetable) to eat at break time. In the past, some children have brought in cakes and crisps, which are not allowed as we promote healthy eating, as a school.

Homework reminder:

- Children are asked to read at least 5 times a week. Please encourage your child to read a variety of books both fiction and non-fiction. This will improve their vocabulary and their writing tremendously. This half-term we will focus on an author's use of language and choice of words, and how we might describe a character or setting based on what we have read. When you read with your child at home, please check their understanding of new or tricky words to help broaden their vocabulary.
- Mental magicians will be tested every week. Please ensure your child is learning these at home by regularly accessing *TT Rockstars*.
- ❖ Children will be given homework on Thursday and it will be due in on Tuesday. This will comprise of reading comprehension/grammar activities or maths questions. Please support your child with their home learning. I will be running a Homework Club in class every Friday for anyone who may need support with their homework and for those who have failed to complete it on time.

If your child has lost their TTRS username and password, please let us know and I will give them it again.

Year 4 will continue to come into school from **8:40** am every day except Friday, when they should arrive at **8.50** am. Focused tasks will be set depending on need between 8:40 and 9:00 am. It is therefore important that your child arrives ready for an 8:40 am start.

As always, if there are any worries or concerns, or you just want to check how your child is getting on, please do come and see me or email in.

Kindest regards,

Mr P Harrison

Year 4 Teacher