

Dear Parents/guardians,

Welcome to Year 4! This will be your child's second year in Key Stage Two which brings greater maturity and responsibility. I aim to help your child become a more independent learner and your role is important and essential in helping him/her to be more organised, establish routines and support them in completing work at home. With this in mind the organisation is as follows:

#### Reading Books

- Your child will bring reading books home every **Friday**. It would be beneficial if you could listen to him/her read at some point over the weekend and discuss the content to make sure that your child has understood what has been read. You may wish to write a comment in their green reading record book, which would be much appreciated. The teacher/TA who listens to your child read during the week may leave a comprehension question in their green book to complete, please ensure your child completes this using **pencil only** and please encourage **neat, joined writing** at all times. Please ensure that your child returns their books on **Monday** so that new books can be issued. Unfortunately due to this being a short 3day week we haven't had time to listen to your child read in school; however we have sent home a book for you to enjoy with them this weekend. For silent reading slots in school your child may wish to bring a reading book of their choice from home, and can do so from Monday.

#### Planners

- Your child has been issued with a planner/homework diary. This is to help them to become more independent and organised. Your child will bring this home on days when they need to remember key items/dates and return it back to school the next day. This has been very successful in upper Key Stage Two in the past.

#### Spelling and Times Table Tests

- The weekly spelling and multiplication tables tests take place **every Thursday**. The spellings schedule has been given out today and can be found on the back of their homework folder, along with a multiplication tables schedule inside their homework folder. Additionally, inside your child's homework folder is a second paper copy (printed on green card) of your child's spellings, this is to keep in a safe place at home in case there are ever weeks that your child doesn't have their homework folder at home. The first tests will take place on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September. Please help your children to learn their spellings and times tables ready for the tests. Your child will fill in their scorecard (on the inside cover of their homework folder) and I will keep a copy of weekly test scores to discuss with you at Parents Evening.

#### Homework

- Along with their reading books, your children will bring home a piece of homework **every Friday**. This will be alternate pieces of Literacy and Maths. Please encourage your child to complete his/her homework because it will consolidate and extend his/her learning. It is essential that your child follows the presentational standards and expectations that have been outlined in their Maths (front cover) and English (inside cover) homework books, as these mirror classroom standards and expectations. I have gone over these with your child today and modelled how to set the first piece of homework out. As well as being issued a homework folder, your child has also been given a plastic homework packet. This is given to try to keep their homework folder in the best condition possible so please encourage your child to look after both.
- **Please return homework by the following Friday**. If your child completes their homework before Friday they can return it and put it in the homework box in the

classroom. I would be grateful if you could inform me if your child has been unable to complete it for a particular reason. Any incomplete or forgotten homework will be completed at playtimes and lunchtimes at school.

**Newsround- BBC1 Wednesday 5.05pm**

- Every Thursday morning your child will be watching the above Newsround programme, along with the other Year 3 and 4 classes, and discussing issues surrounding the particular stories with Mr Gilmore. It would be beneficial if you could encourage your child to watch this programme on a Wednesday evening, so that he/she is prepared for this session. Your child is not expected to make notes on the stories. The session is intended as preparation for when the children move into Years 5 and 6 when they will be expected to make notes.

**PE-Monday and Friday**

- Your child will require a pair of **named black/dark blue shorts, a white T-shirt and a pair of pumps/trainers**. Please send them in a named carrier bag or small pump bag to be placed in the cloakroom. Your child must remove all jewellery. Many of our lessons will take place outdoors and therefore, as the winter approaches, it would be advisable for your child to bring some warm clothing (e.g. sweatshirt/ tracksuit). **Telephone/ written confirmation is required if your child is to be excused from PE.** He/ she will then complete work in another class whilst PE takes place. Mrs Wolff will also teach PE over the year.

I hope that this information is helpful but if you have any queries please contact me. **Your support is vital and much appreciated- thank you!** I hope that we can work as a team so that your child reaches his/her potential. I look forward to an enjoyable and successful year.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Madeley