

15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers of children in Class 4,

Just a few bits of information to ease you into Class 4 for the autumn term:

### **Activities and Class Topics**

#### Literacy

In our Literacy lessons we will be reading and studying the book "The Boy at the Back of the Class" by Onjali Rauf. This is the story of a refugee arriving in a classroom and it is very relevant to current affairs. Within this work we will be looking at sentence structures, persuasive writing, newspaper reports and grammar and punctuation. Our next theme will be on reading, following and writing instructions.

#### Mathematics

For maths we will be teaching from the White Rose scheme, which we introduced this time last year. The children made excellent progress last year and through this scheme they will develop understanding and skills in place value; mental calculation and paper and pencil procedures for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division; fractions, decimals, percentages, ratio and proportion, data handling and reasoning about shapes and measures. We will work on learning times tables throughout the year and use TTRockstars to help us.

#### History and Geography

Our first topic will be a quick look at where we travelled over the summer and then we will focus on earthquakes and volcanoes. A really exciting topic, which I am sure the children will enjoy.

Our first history theme will be looking at and comparing the earliest ancient civilisations. A trip to the Manchester Museum is on the horizon!

#### DT and Art

In DT we will be working on textiles and looking in detail at fastenings.

Our art will be based around our theme on volcanoes. We will look at tone and shade to create fantastic images of fire.

#### Science

Our first theme in science will be all about food chains, teeth and digestion within humans. After half term we will move on to electricity.

#### PE

Your child will have PE on **Thursdays** and **Fridays** this term, so needs to have their kit in school on these days; however it would be useful for your child to have a PE kit on their peg all week. With the weather getting cooler we would also recommend a sweatshirt and joggers or track suit to be available in their PE bag. Our lessons this term will be Tag Rugby with Mrs. Campey and Football with Stockport FC.

#### Reading

Your child will either be on the school's reading scheme or reading books from our class library. Every day we have a quiet reading time and once a week each child will take part in a group reading or writing session to develop their reading and writing skills and discuss texts. Where possible, children may also have individual reading sessions with other adults helping in the class. Children are encouraged to read regularly, preferably every day, at home and it would be helpful if parents can mark their reading records daily.

Mrs Campey will teach Class 4 every Thursday

RE

We will begin the term looking at expressions of worship in Christianity working towards understanding God as the creator, sustainer, loving saviour and ruler. Later we will look at how we care for the natural world. We also look forward to celebrating Harvest this half term.

### Computing

We will be putting our new laptops to good use to investigate weather systems and data handling. We will be using the internet to search for reliable weather data and record this information in a spread sheet.

Later in the half term we will be designing our own websites.

### **Homework**

Once we have settled into school, your child should receive 3 pieces of homework each week, as follows: Maths workbooks, a literacy or topic based piece and a spelling pattern to learn.

Spellings will be tested on **Fridays**.

Maths and Literacy homework will be set on **Wednesdays** and due back the following **Tuesday**.

If your child fails to bring in their homework on the allotted day, they will be given one day's grace but if it is not handed in on the following day, they will be expected to do the homework at playtime. Each child will be given a homework diary this year and we ask you to check and sign it each week to let us know that the homework has been done.

### **Extra Information**

Bags: We ask the children to bring in a pump bag each week, as mentioned, and it is crucial that this bag is a drawstring bag as we will be keeping these bags in our small cloakroom. We do not have the room for every child to bring in a backpack each day, our cloakroom is small, back packs drop to the floor and cause a significant trip hazard. If you feel your child needs to use a backpack please let me know, but otherwise please only use a backpack on days where your child is going to an after school club such as WFA, and needs extra kit in school.

Water: We encourage the children to drink water during the day and therefore encourage them to bring in a water bottle. **Please ensure your child's bottle is labelled** and we will remind them to bring the bottle home daily for washing!

Pencil cases: Children are allowed to bring a pencil case from home, though this is not a necessity, please limit the size of the case as large cases take up valuable room on the desks.

Intervention groups: Some members of Class 4 will be taking part in intervention programmes to support their learning in Literacy and Numeracy. For these they will work in small groups with teaching assistant support.

We hope this information is helpful but do feel free to share any concerns or worries you may have regarding your child.

Kind regards

Jacky Chapman and Charlotte Campey

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