

## Year 4 Autumn Term 2016



Dear Year 4 Parents,

Welcome back to the new school year. We hope that you have had a relaxing and happy summer holiday. We have been busy preparing an active and interesting term for Year 4 and are really looking forward to getting to know your children over the coming weeks.

Our topic this term is **Wartime Winchester** which we will explore through a cross-curricular approach. If you have any relevant artefacts which you don't mind sending to school, we'd be delighted to share them with the class. Likewise, if a family member or friend experienced life during this period and would like to come and talk to the children, please get in touch.

Our **Science** topics are Sound and Digestion/ Healthy diets, linking with food rationing.

In **Literacy** the children will be writing recounts about their drama-based experiences of World War II; creating newspaper reports about an aspect of World War II; and writing stories with a historical setting.

In **Maths** we will be focusing on place value, the four operations, measures, shape & space, data handling and fractions. There will also be regular times tables challenges, to help the children to improve their speed and accuracy of all the times tables up to x 12.

### **Reading**

The children are encouraged to borrow books from the school library and will be bringing home a reading diary to record their reading in. These reading diaries will need to be brought into school daily, so that they can be signed by their teacher once a week. Please encourage

your child to read at home regularly and make comments in their reading diary. Your child will also take part in guided reading sessions each week, where groups of children read a text, discuss aspects of it with an adult and participate in a text-related activity.

### **P.E.**

Your child needs shorts, a t-shirt, trainers (+ socks if child wears tights) and jogging bottoms for going outside in the winter. Both year 4 classes are timetabled to have PE on **Thursday** (outdoor) and **Friday** (indoor).

### **Music**

Hampshire Music Services will be running whole class instrument lessons for 45 minutes a week on Wednesday afternoons. This term the children in Year 4 will be learning **Violin**. There will be a performance at the end of term. Details to follow after half-term.

### **PPA**

Our Planning Preparation and Assessment time is on **Wednesday** afternoons. During this time, the children will be taught Music by a specialist music teacher for one session and will be taught by Mrs Glynn for the other session. Mrs Glynn will also teach Maple class on Wednesday mornings.

### **Information Technology**

The children have a Computing lesson in the Discovery Centre on Tuesdays, as well as using I.T and wordprocessing across the curriculum. We will be focusing on E-Safety and developing and learning to code this term.

### **Useful Dates**

We are planning a trip to the Watercress Railway line, to experience what it would have felt like to be an evacuee in World War II. The date is **Monday October 10<sup>th</sup>**. A letter will be sent home nearer the time. Please remember to check the school's website, which will

keep you updated about diary dates as well as some of the children's activities.

Open channels of communication are vital to your child's happiness and successful learning, so please pop in and see us if you have any concerns, questions or would just like to have a look at what your child has been up to. We are always happy to discuss any issues with parents after school (mornings for urgent issues only please). You'll be very welcome.

### **Home Learning/ Spellings**

**Handed in:** Wednesday

**Sent home:** Friday

Homework sheets will be sent home on Fridays. Weekly homework comprises of a unit maths sheet, which helps children practise their mental maths skills, learning tables, spellings and a supporting worksheet. Handwriting and topic-related tasks are set when necessary. We do not expect a child to spend more than 30 minutes on homework per week. If homework is not completed, your child will not be made to do it at school. Spelling tests will be on Wednesdays.

If you would like to support your child with learning at home please take a look at the Weeke Primary School website (curriculum section) for ideas.

<http://www.weekeprimary.com/curriculum/literacy.php>

<http://www.weekeprimary.com/curriculum/maths.php>

If you have any spare time, we are always grateful for parent (or grandparent) helpers, either on a regular basis or for particular events or trips. If you are able to help, please talk to one of us, or send an email, stating how/when you would be available to help. Many thanks.

With our warm wishes,

Judith Thompson & Greg Arding.