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Wednesday 8th January 2020

#### Year 4 - Class Newsletter - Spring Term 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back after a refreshing Christmas break! The children have all come back renewed and ready to learn with very positive attitudes to their work.

The Year 4 team are available if you have any questions, they are: Miss White, Mrs Scott, Mrs Long, Mrs Howell, Mrs Burgess and Mrs Hall. We are always here to listen and help, please come and see us!

**Topics** – This term promises to be a thrilling and exciting time! We are starting by going back to World War 2 and learning about what life would have been like during this period. Throughout this topic we will be putting ourselves in evacuees shoes, learning about the main events during this WW2 and also arranging our own tea dance (all parents and carers invited!) more information on this will be sent out. Then we will be catching the next flight to Florida, where our next topic will take us! This will have a strong focus on our Blue Planet, which will include looking at the animals, climate, impact of humans and the global climate. We will also be organising a trip to Florida (don't worry we aren't actually flying out to Florida). These topics will have numerous opportunities for science, history, geography, DT, art, story-telling and writing as well as drama.

**Maths** - We are still successfully following the Power Maths Scheme and Year 4 are showing great enthusiasm towards this. This lesson is taught first lesson of everyday and lasts an hour. Children are enjoying this and it continues to take high priority in our day.

**Trips** – We will be hopefully be visiting the Tank Museum or the Nothe Fort, which links in well with our WW2 topic. Hopefully, we can also take a trip to Brownsea Island to visit the Xtreme Falconry or The Sea Life Centre. If these are successfully booked information will be distributed as and when.

**Snacks and Water** – To maximise our brain function and encourage a healthy lifestyle we would like children to bring a healthy snack to school each day to eat at break in addition to a bottle of water. We are encouraging the children to drink and eat smart by keeping hydrated through the day and be conscious of what they are eating. Snacks such as chocolate and sweets will be positively discouraged.



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**Reading** – Reading is hugely important in Year 4, many children in Year 4 are very enthusiastic readers and will read at every opportunity, others need a little more encouragement. We are starting to notice that some children are forgetting to bring in their books, which means they are having to choose a book that maybe they are not interested in. It is essential that your child remembers to bring their book bag to school every day. Year 4 children need to be responsible for remembering this and organising themselves at the beginning and end of the day. Book bags are needed for library, quiet reading, and spelling activities, as well as Individual reading to teachers, classroom assistants and parent helpers. Children should have one or two AR reading books and a nonfiction Library book to choose from. Children can change their books as and when. We are also highly encouraging children to take AR quizzes as soon as they have finished a book. A record is kept of books going in and out of the library, so it is important that children do not put their library books back without registering it. If you find any school books at home that may have been forgotten please return them to school so that we can add them back into our stock (no questions asked!). Please try to find time to read with your children at home, whether they are fluent or not, sharing books together on a daily basis will help them to become more confident and develop a love for reading.

**Spelling and Home Learning Activities** – Spellings will be sent home weekly. These spellings will be from their Read Write Inc teachers. It is important for the children to be practising these at home. Not only does it help with their learning during Read Write Inc but it also helps to expand their vocabulary. If children misplace their spelling sheet, please come and ask as we always have spares! Home learning will be sent home weekly. This task will be sent home on a Friday and due back in for the Thursday of the following week. This task will link to something surrounding the topic, maths or literacy based. We have said before that this home learning is not compulsory, but it would be highly beneficial for the children if they do complete this. If you have access to the internet at home, children can also access Mathletics, Purple Mash, AR reading and also Times Table Rock Stars. If you need any of the logs in, please come and see us. In doing this, may we remind you of the school's policy on using the Internet at home, which is to always supervise your child when using the Internet.

**Swimming and PE kits** – Swimming takes place every Wednesday afternoon throughout the term, if for any reason it is cancelled we will let you know in advance by letter and on our blog. The usual arrangements for pick up from the pool or school remain ongoing, if you are picking up from the pool please arrive by 3:20pm so that we can return the remaining children to school for 3:30pm. Please could you ensure that your child has a full PE kit in school, the weather is colder this term and we would also like the children to bring trainers and tracksuit bottoms for outside PE, it is also useful if they have a spare pair of socks, our PE sessions take place on Tuesday and Thursdays.

**Rights, Responsibilities and Growing Up** – We have been thinking about how we can ensure that our classroom remains a happy, safe and fair place to be. We have renewed our class charter, which states our rights and the responsibilities we have to ensure these rights are fulfilled. The class charter is used in conjunction with the DASP Caterpillars to support expectations for behaviour. Our class rules continue to be constantly and consistently reinforced and this term we are really looking out for those children who are kind and considerate to others and who will make great and reliable friends as they transfer to their next schools. The children are showing their developing maturity by completing their monitoring responsibilities around school and in continuing to look after their buddies. We have also arranged the classroom to allow the children to learn from their desks as they will be doing when they go to middle school. We are also encouraging all children to bring in their own pencil cases and be responsible for their own equipment. The class has risen to the challenge well and we look forward to putting more steps to success for middle school in as the term progresses.



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**Parents Evening** – I look forward to seeing you to discuss your child's progress on Tuesday 5th February from 5:30 – 8:00 or Wednesday 6th February from 3:45 – 5:45. If you are not able to make these dates please come and see me and we can arrange another session.

## Dates to remember:

NSPCC PANTS Day (information to follow) - **Monday 3rd February 2020**

Parents' Consultation Sessions - **This will be an opportunity to discuss your child's work. Tuesday 4th February 5.20pm - 7.50pm and Wednesday 5th February 3.40pm - 5.30pm**

Inspired Writing Week - **Week commencing Monday 10th February 2020.**

INSET Day - **Friday 14th February (No children in school).**

Half Term Break - **Week Commencing Monday 17th February 2020.**

Book Week - **Week commencing Monday 2nd March.**

World Book Day - **Tuesday 5th March (Costume will be required)**

Class Assembly - **This will be on Friday 3rd April 2020 all parents and carers are invited to watch this!**

End of term - **Friday 3rd April 2020**

Yours Sincerely,

Miss A White  
Year 4 Class Teacher)



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