

Parent Information Letter - Year 34

September 2018



Welcome to Year 34

Mrs Lee and Miss Bashford

Dear Parents,

We hope you all had a fun filled summer holiday. It was great to see the children back on the first day, full of energy and eager to start the new school year and looking very smart in their new uniforms! We have had a busy first week back. Our focus has been setting the new class rules and developing our Social Learning goal of helping others feel special.

In this information pack you will find details about our Autumn term curriculum, P.E. days, homework and other useful information.

Please make sure your child's clothes are labelled with their name and class. This helps us return items promptly if they are lost. All equipment is provided by the school, so children do not need a pencil case. For P.E, outdoor and indoor kit is required. P.E. kits should stay in school and will be sent home every half term to be washed.

To give you notice, we are looking for volunteers who work in any area of the NHS to come and speak to the children about their jobs as part of a history learning challenge after October half term. Please let the office know if you are interested or know of someone who would be willing to do this.

We are joined in our team by Mrs Fulford and Mrs Green.

We look forward to a fun year of learning!

Best wishes

Year 34 Team

FRIDAY P.E. DAY all classes	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY P.E. DAY all classes	TUESDAY	MONDAY		What to take to school	What to bring home
		Return Homework					
New Homework							

Useful websites:

- www.bbc.co.uk/schools (especially science and history topics)
- www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk
- www.mathszone.co.uk
- www.teachingtables.co.uk



Homework

Homework will consist of different tasks, including **daily reading**. Year 4 will continue with Accelerated Reader. This has been very successful in engaging our children in reading. Year 3 pupils have already been introduced to it so we are ready to go. Accelerated Reader involves children reading an appropriate levelled book and completing an online reading quiz in class. Children achieving 100% receive a certificate and are entered into a draw to have a tea party with Mrs Hannaford! This proved to be a very popular incentive last session.

As the term progresses the children may receive an LCC related activity or project which will run over the October half term.

In addition, there will be a set Maths activity from a homework book and online Abacus games to complete on alternate weeks. Abacus logins and passwords will be sent home in the first term. There will also be appropriate spelling words sent home to complete as a Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check activity.

All **homework** will be issued on a **Friday** and will be due on the following **Wednesday** (but it can come in earlier!). There will be homework clubs on Thursdays and Fridays to allow for catch up or access to Abacus and Accelerated Reader.

How you can help your child at home

The most important support you can provide is to read with your child and talk about what they are reading.

It is also very helpful if you can practise key mental calculations, such as number bonds to 10, 20, 100, times tables, doubling and halving. Putting these facts into an every-day context such as shopping, cooking, travelling or measuring really does help to illustrate key vocabulary and help the speed of recall! As multiplication tables will be tested in the near future we will be focusing on learning the tables appropriate to the year group. Year 4 are expected to know facts up to 12 x 12.

OUR TOPICS:

English	Maths
Initially this term we will focus on friendship and through this we will write a letter and poem. We will then develop our information writing skills through non-fiction texts including 'Botanicum' and 'Under the Canopy'. Later in the term we will focus on narratives using the text 'George's Marvellous Medicine' as our stimulus.	We will be learning about the value of digits and applying this to problem solving and calculation. We will then move onto the 4 number operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will also consolidate the times tables learnt in year two and three and push onto the next ones.
Learning Challenge	
Our whole school Learning Challenge is 'Do plants need us?' and will involve Year 3/4 exploring the science of plants and flowers. We intend to do this each week through a different curriculum area including art, science, computing, maths, DT and English. In Autumn 2 our LCC will be history based, focusing on the history of the NHS in its 70 th year, and we will be looking for eager volunteers who work within the NHS to share their job roles and responsibilities with the Y3/4 classes.	
Music and RE	PE
We are very fortunate to have the Cambridgeshire Music Services specialist teachers with us again! The children will be working on key music skills and knowledge through song and learning to play an instrument.	This term the children will start with team games and challenges that will encourage cooperation, communication and team work skills. We will then move onto Invasion Games including football, rugby, dodgeball) and Gymnastics.
Trips and Visits	PSHCE
Cambridge Botanic Gardens: 18 th and 19 th October. Further information will be out soon. Year 4 Camp: 26 th - 28 th September	The focus this term will be on an aspect of Relationships including Friendships through a whole school focus of 'Am I a good friend?' We will be using the text 'The Day the Crayons Quit' book and poem.