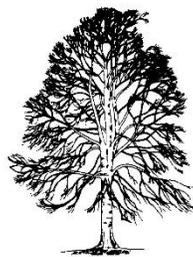


Bottisham Community Primary School



Headteacher: Rachael Johnston

20.4.18

Dear Parents.

Welcome back! We've enjoyed hearing about the children's Easter holidays and the special times they have had with family and friends. As the weather is set to be on the up (hooray!), it would be sensible to think about finding those summer hats and applying sun cream on your child daily. As you read this, we would have spent the day thinking about pioneering scientists like John Sulston.

Here's what else we have planned for the summer term...

Curriculum:

Our topic for the term is 'Rainforests'. The new topic web will be sent home detailing each subject area covered. We will be finding out about the location of rainforests, about plants and animals that have a home in the rainforest as well as special people that live there. We will also discuss ethical aspects about the rainforest such as the issue of deforestation and what we can do to preserve it. The children will be making special books showing the four layers of a rainforest.

Elm Class Assembly will be focusing on what the children have learnt in their new topic. This will take place on **Friday 15th June at 9.30am.**

Birch Class will share their learning on **Friday 6th July at 9.30 am.**

Cedar Class will share their learning on **Wednesday 11th July at 9.30 am.**



Home School Journals:

The children will be receiving a new copy of the Home-School Journal for the summer term. This will contain information about term dates, PE days and your child's class timetable, as well as including a range of fun activities for your child to complete. The Home-School Journal is a really useful tool for communication and we encourage you to use it as way to ask questions and share general information concerning your child. We would also like parents and children to use it to record their daily reading, which is part of their homework. **The children must have their journal in school every day.** The Home-School Journals will be checked by your child's class teacher once a week and signed. If there is a message that you would like a quicker response to, then please ask your child to hand their journal to their class teacher first thing in the morning. Your child's class teacher will be happy to speak with you if there are more urgent or complex matters that you wish to discuss. Alternatively, we can be reached by email.

Summer trip:

We are excited to be visiting **Cambridge University Botanic Garden** on 25th June. Children will spend the day exploring the plants we have studied in class and learning about the glasshouse range.

More information to follow in the term.

Swimming:

Each Year 34 class has been allocated 3 sessions. We will send home information regarding specific dates, cost and the kit required in due course.

School Library:

Mrs Walker and the Year 6 Librarians are on hand every Thursday lunchtime 12.45-1.15pm, so that your child can borrow any two books to read at home over a two-week period. This is another opportunity to extend reading opportunities, on top of the AR books that come home.

Homework:

We appreciate all you do to encourage your children with homework and understand it can sometimes be a challenge! As in the previous term, we have made the homework more prescriptive and straight forward often differentiated by year group.



Each piece of homework consists of a times table to learn, a written literacy activity (usually grammar) and spelling words to learn.



Times Tables: the children must practise their times tables every day. We believe that little and often is the best strategy when it comes to mastering the times tables. We would like children to practise the times tables set for the week for 5 minutes every day. They will be tested every Friday and a new times table set out.

Literacy activity: a literacy activity will be set out in the homework timetable. The children must complete them in order because they link with our work during the week in class.

Spelling: the spelling list will be included in the homework menu. The children must record their spelling practise in their homework book. It has been lovely to see children make a real effort with their handwriting- thank you. **They can simply practise the words or write sentences, practicing using the words in contexts.**

Reading: we ask children to read 15-20 minutes every day and record their reading in their home school journal. This could just be the title of the book and what page number they are on.

PE:

This term, the children will be taking part in tennis, pentathlon and athletics lessons. Please note, the PE days for Birch, Cedar and Elm are as follow:

- Birch and Cedar- Wednesday afternoon with Mrs McGrath and Thursday morning with Mr Green.
- Elm- Monday afternoon with Mrs Ociepko and Friday afternoon with Mrs Walker.



Please ensure that your child has a **named PE kit** which should consist of a plain, white T-shirt and navy or black shorts and trainers; they can bring **plain jogging trousers** as it gets colder outside. This should be brought in a **named, drawstring bag please**. If for any reason your child is unable to take part in PE lessons, we will require a note of explanation.

Indoor Shoes & clothing:

It is very important that all children's clothing in school is named (including shoes) and that they change into their indoor shoes when coming into the classroom. We will be checking on this regularly in order to keep the classroom carpets clean for the children to sit on.

Absences:

We would like to remind you that if your child is going to be absent please telephone the school office on 01223 811235 first thing on the morning of absence. Should your child miss more than one day due to illness, parents must phone the school office every day. Any medication that your child requires during the day should be given to the Office, for a First Aider, in the original container. Inhalers must be labelled and kept with individual children in the classrooms at all times.

Other things to remember:

We would like the children to bring their snacks, water bottles, Home School Journals and book bags into school each day. We want to make the most of the learning time in class, so are encouraging children to only go to the toilet at break times.

In amongst all of the above we have various tournaments at BVC, Water Aid Day, swimming galas, open evenings, the summer fair, and a maths problem solving day thrown into the mix. Please find below the dates for some of the upcoming events and we will fill you in on those when the time arises ☺

- Friday, 4th May- Water Aid Day
- Wednesday, 23rd May- Year 3 Mini-Olympics (Bottisham Village College, all year 3 children)
- Thursday, 24th May- Problem Solving Day
- Thursday, 14th June- Year 34 Cricket Tournament (Whittlesford Cricket Ground, selective participation)
- Wednesday, 20th June- Sports Day
- Thursday, 21st June- Cambridge Youth Games (Abbey Complex, selective participation)
- Monday, 25th June- Year 34 Trip (CU Botanical Garden)
- Monday, 16th July- Swimming Gala (Parkside Pools, selective participation)

Yours sincerely,

Mrs McGrath

Mrs Ociepko

Mrs Walker

Mr Legge