

### Reading

Having to quarantine books does mean there may be fewer books to choose from on the higher levels of the reading scheme. This is why your child may have been bringing home a different level book or a book they have chosen from the classroom. I know the reading levels are important to some of you and to the children too, however, what is more important is that the children learn about what types of books they like and dislike. Ultimately we want children to read for pleasure so please do not worry about what books they are reading just make sure that they are reading regularly.

Please sign homework diaries **every** time your child reads as we award marbles in class for those reading at least four times a week.

### Homework

There was a mixed response to homework last term. Some children produced excellent work that was shared on the padlet while others struggled with the padlet or did very little work at home. In light of this, we will be sending homework books home again this term. Tasks will be sent home on a Friday and need to be completed by the following Wednesday. They will be English or Maths based activities and the children will be expected to mark their own work in school. Spellings are set each week and are tested on Mondays.

### Remote Learning

We now have Microsoft Teams accounts for all classes within school in case we need to commence remote learning at any time in the future. During the next week, we will be showing the children how they can access their Teams account and where they will be able to find the work that has been set if it becomes necessary. Each child's sign in details will be stuck in their homework diaries. Any work will also be posted on the class padlet so if there are any problems accessing Teams the children can still complete their learning.

# Year Four Newsletter

## Term Two



Class Teacher - Mrs Ruck  
Teaching Assistant - Mr Norman

# Welcome back for Term Two!

We hope you all managed to have a bit of a break over half term. You may or may not be working in the coming month but we are pleased that school is continuing as normal for now.

The children have settled back into school and the new routines really well and we have been able to move the learning of all pupils on from their varying starting points. As last term, we will be continuing to identify and address gaps in learning from Year 3 and where possible move children on to the Year 4 expectations. However, our priority remains the safety and well-being of the children especially with lockdown being reintroduced.

You will shortly be receiving a pupil progress report for your child. This is a brief update on how your child has settled into Year 4 and is instead of our usual Autumn Term parent's evening.

Our big question this term is -

## **Why did the Mayans create art?**

We are looking forward to sharing the projects that the children have completed and to displaying them in the hall and the classroom.



If you or your child have any concerns, or you know of anything that may affect their behaviour/well-being during this term, please let us know by calling or emailing the school office.

Mrs Ruck

**Check out the class page on the school's website for photos and information about what we have been doing in school.**

## Our Curriculum

In English this term, we will be completing a newspaper report based on the book *Rain Player*, a Mayan story about a boy who must defeat the Rain God to save his people from disaster. We will also use the *The Great Kapok Tree* story to inspire our own narrative writing including a dilemma.

In Maths, we have moved on to addition and subtraction. We are developing our mental calculation strategies, use of different practical and pictorial representations as well as learning written calculation methods. With Mrs Koca, the children will be working on angles and the properties of shape. Our push on learning multiplication facts up to 12 x 12 continues and if you ask your child, they should know which tables they are currently working towards. Our topic gives the children the chance to further develop their historical skills by exploring what life was like for the Mayans. They will be able to make comparisons with life in Ancient Greece as well as learning about the traditions that are still upheld by Mayan communities that exist today.



Our science topic continues to be living things and their habitats.

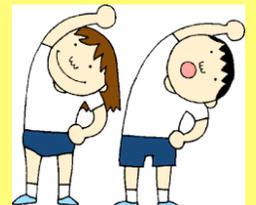
The children will be learning about the effects of seasonal changes on plants and animals as well as finding out more about the positive and negative human influence on habitats.

This term our RE sessions will focus on Islam and the importance of community. The children will revise the five pillars of Islam and reflect upon the key concept of harmony.

The children will have a DT project to complete using their practical skills. This will link to our work on Ancient Maya.

## PE

There will be no further swimming sessions until next summer so the children will now have two PE sessions. The class will now have PE on a Monday afternoon and will continue to have their session with our Sport's coach on a Thursday morning.



On both days the children are to **come to school in their outdoor PE kit** and will stay in their kit all day.

