



CLASS 4 NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 2017



Dear parents and carers,

We hope you had a wonderful summer break with your children. We are quickly settling into routines old and new ready for lots of hard work this coming term. The children are excited to begin the new year in our new and updated year 5/6 classroom. Below is a break-down of everything that we will be covering and what you need to know for the coming term.

In Maths we will be introducing a new programme called Convince Me Maths. This programme aims to tackle Maths anxiety and to allow children to work at their own level and their own pace. The children will be taking a lot more responsibility for their own learning with lots of hands on tasks and investigations. The first unit we will be doing is 'investigating the number system' where the children will ensure that they are confident with place value. After half term we will revise the four calculations and practise formal written methods for each. We will no longer have a weekly arithmetic test; instead children will be regularly tested on their times tables.

In English we are introducing a new reading programme called Comprehension Bug. We have a 45 minute session every morning dedicated to reading. This programme is designed to prepare children to answer the more challenging questions that they will be asked during year 5/6. They will not only have to read the texts but also understand and interpret the meaning of the texts. We will have a discrete grammar and punctuation session every Monday and a discrete Spelling session every Friday. The rest of the week we will continue to practise planning, drafting and editing our writing in our new draft books. Our English this half term will be based on our class book, *The Railway Children*, to link with our topic of British railways.

In Science we are looking at animals including humans. Our focus for this half term is the human body. We will be looking closely at what makes a human body healthy including eating a balanced diet, water, nutrients and exercise. Towards the end of the topic we will also discuss how tobacco, alcohol and drugs affect the human body. Next half term we will be exploring Earth and

Space learning all about the Earth, Sun and Moon and the movement of the Earths and other planets.

In History and Geography we are learning all about British railways and how they have developed from 1830 and what impact the industrial revolution had on British people. We will learn all about the first steam-powered railways and underground railways. We are hoping to visit the National Railway Museum in York later this half term. Next half term we will be learning about the Roman Empire. The children will be researching who the Romans were and how they impacted Britain.

In Computing we will be continuing to use Purple Mash. Purple Mash offers lots of different computing skills such as digital literacy, coding and programming. We will access computing through lots of different curriculum areas.

Finally, we are working hard to encourage a healthy lifestyle both through our Science topic and also our PE lessons. We will be continuing to run the Appleton mile as well as introducing some more exciting morning exercises. In PE lessons we are learning about invasion games such as hockey, netball, basketball and football. We will also be continuing with Skip2bfit and Box2bfit.

We have an exciting new reading corner in class 4 which will soon be restocked with lots of new books chosen by the children! Just a reminder that we ask that children read a minimum of three times a week. Please sign the relevant day to indicate you have heard or are aware that they have read. All children who do read at least three times a week will receive a team point for their team. The children will find out the winning team every week in Friday's celebration assembly – every point counts!



Monday		Outdoor PE kit required
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		Indoor PE kit required (box2bfit)
Friday	Homework to be handed in	Spelling test New homework will be set

Thank you for your ongoing support, we are looking forward to our new year together!

Miss Rowling and Mrs Stainthorpe

