WEST HADDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Autumn - Term 1

Year 4

Welcome

Welcome to Year 4! I hope that you have enjoyed a fantastic summer and are ready for the new school year ahead. I am very excited to be back in school and to welcome the children into Year 4! This year, parents will need to meet children at the classroom door outside Year 4 at the end of the day. If you would like to meet your child elsewhere at the end of school, please let me know. Children will be dismissed from the class at 3.30pm each day. They will be instructed to come back to the classroom if you have arranged to meet them and you are not there. Please feel free to talk to me about any queries or concerns over the term. The best time for this will be at the end of each school day. If you are not coming into school and wish to speak to me, please call the office and I will return the call.

Dates and Things to Remember

Children should bring in a water bottle that will be returned home every day. **Our PE lessons will be on Thursdays** and initially this year, we will be doing swimming instead of a second PE slot. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit for indoor and outdoor PE in school, just in case.

Swimming sessions will begin from Thursday 3rd September and will continue every Thursday afternoon until the October break. Please ensure that they have a swimming hat, a towel and a change of clean underwear.

Please can you also check that all of your child's clothing is named as last year, we had some lost, unnamed items of clothing left behind each day.

In year four, there will be a big focus on indepedence and organisation as we want the children to become more self-reliant and resourceful. Due to this, **we now expect the children to change their own stage books regularly when they have finished them. This can be done during early morning work time each day.**

Topic

Our topic for this term until Christmas is Ancient Greece. We will have an Ancient Greece Wow Day where the children can come dressed as a person from the Ancient Greek period if they would like to. **WOW day will be on the 30th of September.** We'll be doing a lot of art activities that day as well as learning all about the ancient society! Through a thematic approach, the children will make links between many of their subjects over the term.

Our Value for this month is

Friendship

Maths

During our first few weeks in school, we will be refreshing the children's learning from Year 3 and focussing on any gaps in their knowledge. Following that, we will begin to look at place value as well as extending our understanding and use of formal written methods for addition and subtraction. We will continue to focus on rapid recall of multiplication tables which is extremely important and supports children with a solid foundation and fluency in Maths. **The government has introduced a Key Stage 2 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) that all Year 4 pupils will take in Summer Term 2027.** The purpose of this government-led test is to determine whether Year 4 pupils can fluently recall multiplication tables up to 12 × 12 in accordance with the National Curriculum objectives. We would appreciate it if you could support your child with learning their multiplication tables at home on a regular basis in order to help their pace of recall and accuracy. Practising online using a touchscreen or keypad in the same format as the test will be invaluable. A good website to help your children work against the clock is https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/

English

This term, the children will be writing fantasy stories, stories linked to their own experiences and beginning to look at playscripts ready for our upcoming Christmas play! It remains extremely important that your child is reading regularly at home. Please ensure that your child has the opportunity to read a range of texts, both independently as well as with an adult, to encourage confidence, progression and, most importantly, a love of reading. **As part of their homework, children need to read at least twice a week with an adult at home.** Stage books, assigned at their own individual reading level, should be brought home from school to read. **Please initial the children's reading records at least twice each week. These will be collected in each Tuesday.**

Homework

Homework will be set each Thursday and should be handed in the following Tuesday. It should be marked with an adult at home. Homework will include weekly spellings to practise. **The weekly spelling test will take place each Tuesday morning. Times tables will also be tested on Tuesdays.** Our class book this term is The Butterfly Lion by Michael Morpurgo.

Please remember to visit our school website regularly for useful information http://www.westhaddonprimary.net
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