
SALTWOOD CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

CLASS 4 NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN 2019

Letter distributed on Friday 6 September

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to the new school year! I would like to let you know some of the topics that we shall be looking at this term and to provide you with some useful information.

Over the next two terms in Literacy we shall be looking at stories in familiar settings: poetry; instructions; explanation and information texts; and fables. It would help your child if they shared literature from these genres with you at home. Perhaps you could take turns reading so your child can experience reading aloud, and you can also model expressive reading. A key focus for year 4 this year is extending the children's vocabulary – so pausing to discuss unfamiliar words, their meanings, (and any words of similar or opposite meaning), will be of value.

In Maths, we shall be studying place value; addition and subtraction; multiplication and division. Please continue to practise swift mental recall of all times-tables with your child. We will conduct weekly times-table reviews in class. The best way to learn something is to try it in the real world, so please do take every opportunity for "real life" applications of maths, such as supermarket shopping, party food calculations, ticket purchasing, travel timetables/arrangements, capacity/measurement estimations, and, indeed, any other opportunities that present themselves! Michael Rosen's book "Good Ideas – How to be your child's (and your own) best teacher" is a good read on making everyday life a learning experience.

We shall be studying the following subjects in the other curriculum areas:

Subject	Term 1	Term 2
Science	Sound	Electricity
History	Romans	Not applicable
P.E.	Basketball	Football
R.E.	Creation – What do Christians learn from the Creation Story?	Incarnation – What is the Trinity?
Art	Sculpture	Drawing and Painting

Design Technology	Roman (or Celtic) shield construction (NB This is through Homework. The children are encouraged to present orally to the class their explanation of how they created their shield, and how they overcame design issues).	Pop Up Cards
Music	Exploring Sounds	Sound Replication
I.C.T	Minecraft – City creation	Coding and game design
Geography	Not applicable	UK towns, cities and counties
Languages	Latin commands of the Roman Army!	French: Vocabulary and custom around Christmas and New Year
PSHE	Health & Lifestyle Choices	Emotional & Mental Health

Reading books and reading records must come into school daily. This is essential please. The reading records are an important record of your child's reading development and also serve to recognise the value we place on reading and comprehension. I would be obliged if, when reading with your child, you could use the Bloom's style of questioning which most parents and carers are now familiar with. You will find the Bloom's questioning structure inside the cover of the reading record booklet.

There is only one Homework book this year. Children complete both the compulsory weekly tasks in the book as well as the optional grid tasks. Homework remains an integral part of Saltwood School policy and will be set on a Friday for return the following Wednesday.

Please ensure that your child always has a **fully named** P.E. kit in school. A warm tracksuit (red sweatshirt and plain black jogging bottoms) and trainers are needed for outdoor P.E. in the autumn/winter months. Red shorts and white t-shirts are worn indoors (with bare feet). P.E. days are Mondays and Thursdays.

Children may bring in their own crayons, colouring pens and pencils into class as long as these are all clearly named and kept in a **small** pencil case. Drinking water regularly can aid concentration and therefore it is recommended that your child brings in a water bottle every day. Hunger can also affect learning and could I therefore please ask that your child always brings a snack for morning break. This should be something healthy. Fruit is ideal. Please ensure you are aware of the current school policy regarding snacks containing nuts.

I am looking forward to meeting you all at the orientation session on Wednesday 11 September at 4.00pm.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Hunt

Class Teacher