



Woodstone Community Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr P Mullins
Deputy Headteacher: Miss G Clement

Growing together, Learning forever

27th August 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back after what I hope was a wonderful summer for you all. I also hope that the children are excited about beginning their first term in Year 4; I know that I'm really looking forward to teaching them all the exciting things that make it such a fantastic year. Mrs Moore, Mrs Sainsbury and Mrs Edwards will be working with me to support and inspire the children too.

This term we will be learning about "**Ancient Greece**" (in History), "**Rivers**" (in Geography), '**Electricity**' and '**Investigating Materials**' (in Science); you can find a detailed map of all the subjects we will be covering on the Year 4 class page in 'Curriculum Overviews' on the website.

In our music lessons this year, we will be learning to play the ukulele as well as developing our singing and musical skills. Mr Trueman, a specialist music teacher from the Leicestershire Music Service, will teach the lessons and each child will be loaned an instrument through the music service (more details will be sent out soon). Once the ukuleles start going home, please ensure that your child brings theirs in for the lesson every Wednesday.

Please be aware that Year 4 pupils are expected to know **all their times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of the year** and there is now a government statutory assessment on times tables at the end of Year 4. Each week we'll complete a Multiplication Challenge against the clock to help build up their knowledge and speed of recall; practising on Times Table Rock Stars for at least 30 minutes per week as part of their homework will certainly help to ensure they develop a solid understanding and grasp of their tables. They will also have a piece of written maths homework to help support their understanding of the topic we are focusing on in school. We practise spelling in class and the children are expected to know all the words on the Year 3/4 spelling list by the end of the year; these can be found within the reading diary along with other useful learning tools. Please try to learn and practise these words at home too as this will really boost your child's confidence and understanding.

Reading is, as I'm sure you agree, one of life's key skills and in order to support the work we do in school, we ask that you hear your child read for 15 minutes at least 3 times per week, whatever their ability. Reading regularly to and discussing the content of the books with an adult develops children's comprehension skills and your help with this really does make a big difference to their success. Hearing you read as well is also a fantastic way to enhance their love of reading. Please sign and date their reading diary, making a note of anything you think I should be aware of to help them further. The children are rewarded with Dojo points for achieving their reading targets each week but for every 'home adult read' missed, they will have catch up time, either at break or lunchtime.



PE will be on Tuesday and Friday afternoons but please ensure that the PE kit is in school ALL week so we can change the days if necessary. **This kit is an essential part of their uniform as it allows movement to be easier and more comfortable and is designed to ensure health and safety guidelines are adhered to at all times. Please check regularly that their kit fits (especially footwear) and includes:**

Outdoor: trainers suitable for playground and field, blue or black tracksuit bottoms, blue or white t-shirt, sweatshirt.

Indoor: pumps, a blue or white t-shirt and blue shorts.

Jewellery, including earrings, must not be worn in any PE or swimming lessons and if possible should be removed before the children come to school. Long hair must be tied up.

As a Healthy School, we encourage the children to drink water throughout the day and so ask that you ensure your child brings a named bottle of water with them every day; school has a fresh water fountain so they can top it up as necessary. The tuck shop will be open at break so a small amount of money will be needed if they wish to buy from there. If not, please ensure that your child has a piece of fruit or another healthy option to eat.

As many of you know, I consider myself, the children, the adults in class and you as 'quintessential parts of a team' and am sure that as we work together all the children will continue to build on the progress they made last year so they can achieve their full potential across and beyond the curriculum. If you have any questions or queries at any time, please feel free to contact me via the class email - year4@woodstone.leics.sch.uk - or come and see me either before or after school.

In our 'Meet the Teacher' meeting, which begins at 5.00pm on Monday 2nd September, I will talk through the expectations of Year 4 and happily answer any questions or queries you may have. I look forward to meeting you all then.

Regards,

Susie Williams
Year 4 Teacher