



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are well into the swing of things in year 4 and the children are rising to the new challenges coming their way but I wanted to give you some information about the sort of things the children will encounter in the next 10 months.

Home learning this year will focus on honing the key skills. Maths will usually consist of a times tables or mental arithmetic activity. These should be completed quickly and accurately as we work to develop quick recall and mental agility. English will be spelling activities. There will be a mixture of key words, frequently misspelled words and year 4 spelling pattern words. With both mental maths and spellings, the more frequently they are practised, the more easily the children will apply them in lessons. We continue to focus on developing the children's love of reading. There are incentives in class for completing home learning and for reading aloud to an adult a minimum of five times a week.

As in previous years, we aim to do PE lessons twice a week. While we try to keep to regular times slots, as the weather becomes more unpredictable we may move PE around in the week to try to squeeze in sessions between the weather. As such, please ensure that PE kits are in school every day. We will be swimming in term 2 and term 4. We also take our learning outside regularly so sensible shoes and a warm and waterproof coat are essential to have in school every day.

We have a huge curriculum to cover in Year 4, and we try to do so in a fun and interactive way. Our history will focus on The Greeks and their influence on the western world, and the Roman Empire and its impact on Britain. Through this, we will look at the countries that the empires covered and their geography. This will also form the theme for our other curriculum areas.

This year we will also be studying Asia for our school focus 'Different Child, Same Planet' where we will look at the similarities and differences between our lives and the lives of children elsewhere in the world. This will be done through the learning of our rights and hopefully give the children an understanding of life outside of the UK.

This is also the year where the children would have a residential to Braeside. However, due to the impending closure of Braeside we are going to do something slightly different. We plan to have a night stay in the school with each day either side filled with outdoor activities. We hope that this will still provide the children with a fun and memorable experience while keeping the cost of the trip to a minimum. This will be done in term 5 and more details will be given about it closer to the time.

If you have any questions please come into class for a chat.

Mr Baker