



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

May 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a great term of varied learning in a small number of weeks. With the beginning of our swimming lessons, and some special visitors giving us an insight into different aspects of 'crime and punishment'. All this ending with our CSI event in the final week of this half term. Our next topic in year 4 is called "Reign over Us". This theme will be linked across our wider curriculum work and will be the basis for our year end celebration.

MAIN LEARNING THEME – 'Reign over Us'

In our final topic, the children will be exploring the history of Britain as a chronological narrative, from the earliest times to the present day; how people's lives have shaped their country and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world. The theme will be linked across our history, English, computing, music and extended writing work. Religious Education will continue to be taught using the new Peterborough Guidelines.

Areas of study for the final term will include:

- Invasions and wars that shaped our country;
- Important records and documents;
- Why Henry VIII changed religion;
- Timelines and family trees of British Monarchs;
- The influences of Queen Victoria and Elizabeth II.

KEY VOCABULARY FOR LEARNING THEME:

Normans; English; Vikings; Kings; Battle; Throne; Crown; Doomsday; Records; Census; Empress Matilda; Shield; Civil war; Family tree Magna Carta; Barons; Revolt; Crusades Plantagenet; Kings; Wales; Scotland; Conquer; Parliament; Lancaster; York; Roses; War; Succession; Family tree; Timeline; Catholic; Protestant; Tudor; Henry VIII; Wives; Parliamentarian; Royalist; Roundhead; Cavalier; Stewarts; Puritans; Oliver Cromwell; Lord Protector; Republic Protectorate; Plague; Black death; Great fire of London; Materials; Collage; Horizon; Queen Anne; Stuarts; Heirs; Monarchy; Catholicism; Colony; Colonial; Independence; Boston tea party; Architect; Regency; Brighton pavilion; Designers; Abdication; Divorce; Power; Marriage; Commonwealth; Queen Elizabeth II; Chronological; Britain.

MATHS

The main objectives are as follows: number; mental and written calculations; measurements. We will be continuing our focus on mental maths and times tables. We will be working on **multiplication and division; coordinates; statistics and measurements; measuring weight; addition and subtraction using money and measures**. The children will also learn to apply these to written problems and real life situations. Our Assertive Mentoring programme has successfully raised the attainment of the children across school so will now be used as an intervention tool for the remainder of the school year. The children will have their targets as before.

ENGLISH

The Read, Write Inc Literacy and Language programme has continued to be a great success through the school, and the children are enjoying this learning strategy immensely. The partner work and focused vocabulary have helped to embed skills learnt in previous years and develop their comprehension and writing skills further. Next term, we will be studying **a story from Pakistan and persuasive writing**. Some home reading that would support this could be 'Haroun and the Sea of Stories' – Salman Rushdie; 'Stories from India' – Anna Milbourne and Linda Edwards; 'Seasons of Splendour: Tales, Myths and Legends of India' – Madhur Jaffrey and Michael Foreman; 'Rickshaw Girl' – Mitali Perkins and Jamie Hogan; any children's newspaper or magazine.



TRIPS/VISITORS

Swimming will continue for the rest of the year and any sessions missed due to unforeseen circumstances will either be made up before the end of the year or refunded if it is not possible to fit an alternative session in. The trip for the final term is yet to be confirmed and we will forward the details to you as soon as they have been confirmed in plenty of time.

PE

Children will continue to partake in two hours of PE each week. Please remind your child that they should bring their PE kit into school on a Monday, **leave it in school all week** then take it home to be washed on a Friday. This way, if we choose to do extra PE, the children will have their kit in school.

This should consist of:

- Plain White Top
- Black or Grey Shorts
- Black or Grey Bottoms for the colder weather
- Long Sleeved Top for the colder weather
- Spare White Socks
- Plimsolls/Trainers
- Gloves and Hat for the cold months

Can we remind you that school rules state that, for the safety of your child, earrings need to be removed for PE (which needs to be done independently) or plasters (provided by home) need to cover the earrings. Children with long hair will also be asked to ensure that it is tied back. Please ensure that **all** kit is **named** clearly and are checked on a regular basis when written onto labels.

PARENT/CARER INVOLVEMENT

To bring our year 4 learning to an exciting end, we will be holding a traditional style street party on the playground which parents/carers will be invited to.

HOME LEARNING

Your child will receive another termly POWER project which will be given out on the first Wednesday of the term. This has been very successful so far and the children have enjoyed creating their projects very much. These tasks will again enable the children earn POWER points. The children can choose from a variety of projects using differing media and interest levels. These activities are not compulsory, but are a fantastic way to involve family and friends in their learning. The way in which the work is presented is entirely up to the child; the more creative the better!

In addition to this, every Wednesday the children will be given two other tasks of literacy, maths or science which are due the following Wednesday, and they will be awarded house points for their efforts on these tasks. This home learning is expected to be completed at home and handed in on time by the due date. If children do not meet this requirement then they will complete the home learning during break times. Can you please ensure that your child completes the literacy/maths/science home learning each week. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher.

BREAK TIMES

Children may bring in a snack to eat at morning break but it must be a healthy option, and remember that we are a nut free school. Also, a Hot Meal option is available every day for your child's lunch, but it must be paid for in advance using our ParentPay system.

This half term has been very mixed with exciting visitors and the start of our swimming sessions at Jack Hunt.

We are looking forward to continuing these sessions and immersing ourselves in the final topic of this academic year. I know it will be an enjoyable half term and know that the hard work and super learning behaviours shown throughout the year will continue next term.

Miss Miller
Class Teacher

Mrs Dunkley
TA

Mrs Sansby
TA

Mrs Brittan
TA

Mrs Woods
TA

Mrs Reynolds
Head Teacher

