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AND RESOURCED PROVISION FOR
HEARING IMPAIRED CHILDREN
Headteacher: Mrs C Findlay

7th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the second half of the Autumn Term! I hope that you all had a lovely break with your children over the half term holiday. On our return to school we have heard about Diwali celebrations, dressing up for Halloween and fireworks – it sounds like lots of you were very busy!

Communication – so many e-mails!

This half term always seems one of the busiest in school with our run up to Christmas at the end. With this in mind, I know we have been sending out a lot of e-mails explaining what is happening, including information on the curriculum, upcoming trips and Christmas events. I apologise if your inbox has been bombarded this week, but it is important to us that we are letting you know of what is coming up so that we can work in partnership with you. As always if you have any feedback on communication, we would be happy to hear it – positive or developmental!

Younger siblings

Please can you ensure when waiting for pupils at the end of the school day that younger siblings remain under your close supervision at all times. It is not safe for children to be swinging round the bars next to the wheelchair ramps or climbing on the gazebo. Our school timber trail is also out of bounds after school for public use and younger siblings. Whilst the film on the windows does not allow people outside to view into the classrooms, pupils and staff can view the playground. It can therefore be very distracting for children when enjoying their end of the day story if younger siblings are putting their heads through open windows etc. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Update from the Year Teams

Year 3

It was wonderful to share our learning with parents and carers at the end of the last half term. It was also lovely for the children to celebrate their learning, hard work and progress with you.

We have had an excellent but busy start to this half term.

In English we enjoyed a short performance of one of Aesop's most beloved fables, The Lion and Mouse. Next week we will be writing our own version of this fable inspired by the award-winning artist Jerry Pinkney's wordless adaptation where an unlikely pair learn that no act of kindness is ever wasted.

We have been really pleased to see children logging on to TTRS at home to practise recalling their times tables. These important facts are vital in so many areas of maths, so any practise (little and often) really

does make a difference. This week, we have started to learn the 4x table including the division facts and we have explored the relationship between the 2x and 4x table.

We have been learning about different light sources in science and during this topic we will plan investigations, collect results and draw conclusions based on the data we have gathered. Throughout the year we also carry out a longitudinal study which focuses on how a habitat changes over time. Since the start of term, each month we record information about the weather including the temperature and then observe the same area of the school field to see what we notice and complete observational drawings of the area. We have already started to notice some changes!

Finally, thank you to those children who remember to return their spelling sheets each week and to those that also make sure they write any reading (including on Oxford Reading Buddy) in their reading records. It's been wonderful to see so many children making good progress with their spelling and reading.

Year 4

It has been a great first week back in Year 4! We are just getting stuck into our topic on the Ancient Greeks having enjoyed learning some Greek myths in English. In maths, the children have been mastering their 6 x tables. See if they can count in sixes up to 72 – you'll be impressed!

We have our visit from the author Guy Bass on Monday afternoon which we are all really excited about. If your child has any Guy Bass books that they would like signed, they should bring them in on Monday. Remember that it is also Anti-Bullying Week next week: we will look forward to seeing everyone in their odd socks on Tuesday to celebrate diversity.

Thank you to those who have already started to look at words for our Christmas production over the half term holiday. If your child did not bring home a script, or is unsure which part they are playing, please speak to their class teacher or Mrs James. We will be starting to rehearse over the next few weeks and look forward to seeing you all for our performance in December!

Finally, just a reminder about the Multiplication Check meeting on Wednesday 3:30-4pm in the school hall. This is a really good chance to find out more about what the Year 4 Multiplication Check entails, as well as lots of ways that you can help your child with their times tables at home.

Year 5

Thank you to everyone who came to our celebration of learning. Year 5 loved sharing their work with you and it was great to see so many of you there supporting. We were really proud of the high quality of art work and English work they produced.

Year 5 have now started their new topic all about the Anglo Saxons. On Tuesday, we enjoyed a day of Anglo Saxon activities including art, making Anglo Saxon villages out of Lego and other resources and an Anglo Saxon based orienteering activity. We are looking forward to learning more about the Anglo Saxons in the coming weeks.

In maths, we have been looking at fractions including equivalent fractions and converting between mixed number and improper fractions. Any support to help your child to continue to learn their times tables would be really helpful as it helps to support their fraction work.

In English, we are looking at different books around dragons and writing a description of a monster/dragon that we create. In our guided reading sessions, we have been partaking in the Hampshire Illustrated book awards where we have been voting for our favourite picture book out of 6 choices.

Please continue to encourage children to bring back their spellings weekly and read daily as it makes a big difference in their learning.

Year 6

Year 6 started their half-term with a visit from Surrey Heath Museum whom brought a selection of artefacts for the children to investigate. The children enjoyed dressing up in vintage clothing, handling artefacts such as toy planes and exploring written, photographic and artistic documents. As historical detectives they discovered that all the items linked to the life of Samuel Cody. They will be going on to use these skills to help them find out more about other famous Farnborough people as we wrap up our 'No Place Like Home' Topic.

This Friday, your child will be bringing home their SAT Revision workbooks to be completed at home. Accompanying the workbooks will be a timetable listing what should be completed and by when. Homework is due in on a Wednesday. We will then mark the work in class each week on a Thursday, before returning the workbooks home for the next set to be completed. If your child is struggling with any elements of their revision, then please let us know and we will go through it with them before the work is due in. This homework really helped children when it came to doing their tests last year, which is why we have repeated this opportunity. Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Findlay
Headteacher