

Lower KS2 Update Letter Welcome to Mercury, Mars and Jupiter

Welcome to Year 3/4!

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are very pleased to be starting the new school year in as normal a way as possible, and long may it last! It was lovely to meet all our new classes this week and find out a little bit about everyone, as many children and teachers have not had the normal opportunities to get to know their children in advance.

Key Dates:

Whitefield Moor Visit: Tuesday 21st September

Rock2thebeat: Meet the teacher was today Friday 10th Sept, first lesson on is on Friday 24th Sept
(Note: these music lessons are already full as children were enrolled last term - a waiting list is available)

Woodwind lessons: First lesson is on Monday 13th Sept *(Note: there are two places available for lessons on either flute or clarinet, please contact the office)*

Topic:

We are starting the term with a unit on The New Forest, as our local study for geography. We are very pleased to have arranged our first trip out to the New Forest, to be led by the New Forest National Park education team. We will spend half a day there, walking in the area and learning about the history of the area. Please refer to the trip letter for more details.



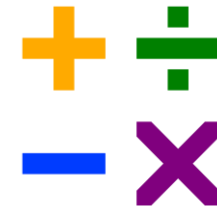
In week 5, we will be switching to learning about Ancient Egypt, through until Christmas. We are planning to have a dress-up entry point day later this half term.

Maths:

All children will be working from the Power Maths scheme and will concentrate on number and place value for the first half term. We will break into two Year 3 groups and two Year 4 groups, so that we can teach the appropriate maths curriculum.

We will be making good use of maths manipulatives (Dienes, place value counters) to help visualise our learning, and solve problems in context so children understand when they may have to use their maths knowledge as well as learning the arithmetic calculations.

We will reintroduce the times-tables weekly test to encourage all pupils to become experts in knowing and applying their times tables facts, as these are essential before progressing onto other areas of maths. Year 3's should be proficient in the 2, 5 and 10 times-tables. Year 4's have also covered 3, 4 and 8's. We will start on these as revision this term.



Continued.../

PE/Games:

We would like everyone to continue to come into school in their PE clothes on their PE /Games days, as this saves a lot of time changing and a lot of lost kit!

These are your class's days:

ALL 3/4: Indoor PE on Mondays

Mars: Outdoor games on Tuesday

Jupiter: Outdoor games on Wednesday

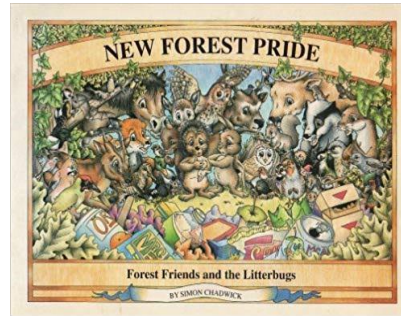
Mercury: Outdoor games on Friday

Please can all long hair be tied up for both PE/ Games sessions and children should wear their school sports kit, trainers and warm layers for outdoor days.

**English:**

We will be starting with a unit on New Forest Pride by Simon Chadwick to link with our local study work, followed by The Minpins by Roald Dahl, where we will be writing adventure stories. Our Egyptian text is Egyptian Cinderella by Shirley Climo. We will also look at a number of guided reading texts throughout the term.

We will spend a good deal of time on learning spellings, improving handwriting and getting our writing into clear sentences with capital letters and full stops, and of course, encouraging lots of reading both in and out of school.

**Science:**

Our first science unit will be on Forces, learning about friction and magnetism.

PHSE:

We will be exploring 'Being me in my world'.

RE:

Our first unit is on 'People of God' where we will learn about Noah and God's promise.

Home Learning:

We have invested in a digital learning programme called Education City, which we will begin using shortly for maths and spellings/ grammar home learning. We will test times tables on Fridays. Children will have their home learning set via Google Classroom each week once this is set up.

We are looking forward to a busy and exciting year ahead. Please continue to support your child in helping them to read aloud daily, bringing their book and reading record to school every day.

Any questions, please ask your child's class teacher.

Many thanks in advance,

The Year 3/4 team.