

Happy New Year! Welcome back to 3/4.

We hope everyone had a restful Christmas break and hopefully stayed Covid-free. We are really pleased that almost all of our children are back in school, and that they have settled well into the new term.

Key dates:

Woodwind music lessons are continuing for those who have started lessons with Mrs Wallace on Mondays. There is one space if anyone would like to start lessons on the flute, please enquire at the office.

Rock2thebeat lessons are going well, and the bands have begun rehearsing together on Fridays. There are no spaces currently for new starters but there will be several spaces in September when the current Year 6's leave.

Fashion: Please can the children bring in a basic plain white T-shirt (**washed and named**) by Monday 24th January, which you are happy for them to tie dye, cut, sew and alter!

Fashion sewing day: **Wednesday 9th Feb**

Fashion Show: **Friday 18th Feb 2.30 - 3.00pm (open to parents/carers to come in)**. Please do a lateral flow test and wear a mask. Thank you

English and Maths is available daily on Google Classroom, which children can access if they are off school due to Covid.

Any children involved in Mrs Mayall's or Mrs Davis' Golden times on Fridays, will need to come to school in PE/outdoor games kit on Fridays this half term (except the last Friday, which is our Fashion Show).

Topic:

We have started our new topic on Fashion and have been researching how fashion has changed over time. We will be looking in more depth at fashion in specific historic periods and in the 1960s. The children will be designing their own 'designer T-shirt' and dying, cutting and sewing to create unique designs.

Please can your child bring in a named and washed plain white T-shirt by Monday 24th January, as they will be preparing to tie-dye their T-shirt that week, ready to 're-style' it the following week. We will also be asking for parent volunteers to come in to help us with a mass sewing day! At the end of this half term, the children will put on a fashion show, modelling their amazing creations on a cat-walk, for you to enjoy!

A separate letter will go out with more details of all these things.



After half term, we will begin our topic on 'Food', by considering where in the world our food comes from. In this topic, we will look at world maps to find where our food comes from, consider what makes a healthy diet, what do we have in our lunch boxes, what makes a healthy sandwich and linking to English; some instruction writing. You might like to start collecting food package labels which shows where food comes from.



Maths:

All pupils are continuing to work on multiplication and division, and applying this to problem solving. Please will you help your child to learn their times tables, especially year 4s, as knowledge of these will really help your child to complete their calculations more easily and quickly in class.

A text to let you know which times tables to learn is sent out on a Friday/Monday, to be tested out of order the following Friday. TTRockstars has been set for all children in 3/4 and using this platform regularly will really improve their speed of recall. Teachers have log-in details if you are unsure how to access this.

All children should be proficient in the 2, 5 and 10 times tables, as this is a Year 2 target. Year 3's have now also covered 3, 4 and 8's. Year 4's should know 3, 4 and 8's from Year 3 (and last term) and are now working on the rest: 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12!

Thank you for your support in this.



PE/ Games:

We would like to remind everyone to come into school in their PE clothes on their PE /Games days, and to wear warm layers for outdoor games. We will start this half term with hockey skills outdoors, and in PE, children are learning to build sequences in gymnastics, involving rolling.

These are your class's days:
ALL 3/4 children have 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 and games sessions.



English:

We have been thoroughly enjoying our first English unit on meerkats, starting with the film, 'Catch it!' where we will be writing a narrative about the meerkats' adventures. We will then move onto reading the book 'Meerkat Mail' by Emily Gravett. We will link this to computing and research facts about meerkats, typing them up on the chrome books.



After our meerkat adventures, we will begin nonsense poems, and finish this half term with exploring the story of 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. We will invent some unusual menus for the Iron Man and try to decide what to do with him!



Science:

We have started our first science unit on Skeletons and have made some fun skeleton models. We will link this to our music unit on bodies, to learn some of the parts of the body and compose some 'bones' music on percussion! We will also be looking at muscles and complete some investigations.

After skeletons, we will move onto teeth and digestion, looking at the changes in our teeth, the use of toothpaste, how to look after our teeth and how food is digested.

PHSE:

We will be exploring 'Dreams and Goals'.

RE:

Our first unit this half term is on Hinduism and pilgrimage to the River Ganges.

Home Learning:

Please will you check that you are familiar with the home learning expectations for Years 3 and 4:

- Daily reading: read daily at home and record this on a reading record. Bring both the book and the record into school every day.
- Times tables: learn the set times tables for a test on a Friday (text out the previous Friday)
- Spellings: learn to spell the list of words (given on a Monday on paper and also listed on Google Classroom) to be tested on Fridays
- Education City: An English and a Maths activity is set every Wednesday and will close the following Tuesday. Please log on to access these.
- Some children also have 'Nessy' to help improve their spelling, please encourage them to access this 3 or 4 times a week at home

If you do not know any of your child's log-ins, please ask their class teacher.

Many thanks in advance,
The Year 3/4 team.