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Owl Class Newsletter – Autumn Term 2018

Welcome to all our children and parents to year 4. I know the year ahead will be filled with new and exciting experiences allowing each child to develop their skills, knowledge and personal values in a safe a welcoming environment.

Our topic this term is ‘Wild Weather’. We will be looking at a variety of weather conditions including some examples of extreme weather. Make sure you watch a few weather forecasts as we will be measuring, recording and presenting the weather in a video broadcast. We have contacted the Met office in Exeter to ask for a STEM Ambassador to come and do some weather workshops at our school. If this can be arranged, we expect the amount to be in the region of £3-£4 per child. We will contact you nearer the time.

Our curriculum overview is as follows:

**MATHS** Numbers to 10,000. Addition and Subtraction. Multiplication and Division.

**TOPIC - GEOGRAPHY** Climate, weather, seasons, clouds, extreme weather, changing climates

**ART & DT** Harvest Soup Project Weather Instruments

**ENGLISH** Stories with familiar settings Weather Poems Information Texts



**SCIENCE**  Light Electricity Animals including Humans. Digestion & Nutrition

**COMPUTING**

We are Weather Presenters

**MUSIC** Storm Interlude & Night on a Bare Mountain

**FRENCH**

Colours, animals, stories

**RE/PSHE**

Special Journeys

PE

The class will have PE lessons on a Wednesday and a Thursday. This will be taken by a PE specialist It is vital that the children have their PE kit in school for these sessions. Can I remind you that Widewell PE kit is a blue t-shirt, black shorts and trainers. We will be outside for many of our PE lessons this term, so plimsolls are not always the most suitable footwear. Tracksuits can be worn in colder weather. I will send letters home when children repeatedly forget their PE kits. Please make sure that everything is named!

Reading

Learning to read is extremely important as it allows children to access all parts of the curriculum. My personal aim this year is to get our class, even the most reluctant readers, to discover a personal love for reading. I will expect the children to read as often as possible with a standard of at least 5 times a week. The children will be given library books with their own personal ZPD number which is reflective of their reading ability using the assessment Accelerated Reader. I would like you to use the reading record as a form of communication- to tell me about their reading preferences and what makes them enthusiastic readers. Please feel free to sign it every time you listen to your child read. I would also like to encourage the children to write in their reading records as often as possible. They can make comments about what they are reading and perhaps recommend a book to a friend. We will be celebrating enthusiastic reading this year so make sure your reading record reflects the amount of reading your child does!

Homework

The homework cards remain the same. Please sign and tick to confirm that your child has done the required amount of reading every week. We will continue to note spelling and times tables test scores which will be taken on a Friday.

Spelling

There will be a weekly spelling test taken on Friday mornings. We have designated time to practice their spellings in class, as well as homework. In addition to this, I will be providing spelling games and activities for the children to take home if they wish to have extra practice.

Uniform and Equipment

To save any loss of clothing, please ensure your child’s name is on any personal belongings. This includes, school uniform, PE kits and their coat which must be brought to school this term. Please can you ensure your child brings a pencil case with writing equipment and a water bottle everyday to school. All personal items must be named clearly.

If you have any queries or concerns at all, please feel free to come and see me on the playground in the morning or after school. If you would like a longer appointment this can be arranged via the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Russell

Year 4 Class Teacher