



St John's Primary School

St John's Road, Wallingford, Oxon, OX10 9AG Tel: 01491 837305 Email: office.2567@st-johns.oxon.sch.uk
Headteacher: Miss Nicky Hughes

30th October 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are really pleased at how the children have settled into Year 4; they are developing excellent learning habits and produced lots of wonderful work during last term's "Making a Splash" topic. It was great to be able to show their artistic creations at the Open Afternoon at the end of Art Week – thank you to all the parents who came to see their lovely work.

This term our topic is "Rise of the Robots", with a particular focus on the book "The Iron Man" by Ted Hughes. Once again, we have lots of exciting learning planned and the term will be a very busy one – please see the attached topic grid for more information.

Forest School

Year 4 will continue to have Forest School on Monday afternoons, led by our Forest School Leader, Melanie Gravett, assisted by Julie Carr. Please make sure your child has his or her Forest School kit in school each Monday: long-sleeved top and fleece, long trousers and wellington boots, together with waterproof coat and waterproof trousers if you have them. (If not, we have some in school which can be borrowed.) As the weather is turning colder, please also pop a warm hat, scarf and gloves in your child's Forest School kit bag.

P.E:

As was the case last term, Year 4 will have a PE lesson on Tuesday afternoon, led by a specialist sports coach, Judith Ross. This term, Judith will be teaching the class hockey skills. These lessons will take place outside and the children can wear tracksuit trousers. Sports trainers (not "Converse" type shoes) must also be worn. On Friday mornings, the class will have a PE lesson with Mrs Hannaford. This term, the focus will continue to be dance, so the children will need blue or black shorts as well as a plain white t-shirt for this PE lesson. Earrings should not be worn in PE lessons, or should be covered by a small plaster.

Music Technology

The children are loving their weekly lessons in Music Technology, led by a specialist teacher from the Oxfordshire County Music Service. These lessons will continue to take place on Tuesday afternoons, at no cost to parents. We hope to have some music to perform to you all later in the term!

Homework

Please continue to support your child with their homework, which will continue as last term. It is particularly important that your child reads regularly at home, and you can help to improve their understanding by asking them questions about what they have read. More information on helping your child with reading at home will be available during the Parent Teacher Interviews next week. Please also read **to** your child, as well as hearing them read and encouraging independent reading. Reading **to** your child helps them to develop a love of books, and enables them to access books at a slightly higher level than those they can read on their own.

Parent Helpers

We would welcome offers of parent help, particularly on Friday afternoons, when Art lessons will take place, or Wednesday afternoons, when parents could help with hearing children read. If you are able to give up any time, we would be very grateful. It doesn't have to be every week! Please speak to one of us or email the school office if you are able to help. Thank you.



Dates for the Diary

Friday 3 rd November	Halloween Disco
Monday 6 th November	School closed to pupils – INSET day for staff
Tuesday 7 th November	Parent teacher interviews
Thursday 9 th November	Parent teacher interviews
Monday 13 th November	Flu immunisations
Friday 24 th November	Year 3 and Year 4 trip to the Watermill Theatre
Tuesday 12 th December	Year 4 start swimming lessons (letter to follow)
Tuesday 19 th December	Christmas Service at St. Mary's Church. End of term.

We are looking forward to a busy but exciting term! If you have any questions about your child's learning, please don't hesitate to get in touch. You can pop in to school at drop off or collection to arrange a convenient time to meet, or contact us via an email to the school office. (office.2567@st-johns.oxon.sch.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Hannaford and Mrs Burgess