



St John's Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss Nicky Hughes

16th April 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have had a lovely, restful Easter. Our Chocoholics topic was a huge success and we are still on a high after the fabulous job the children did in the production. We are hoping to continue to motivate Year 4 with our new topic – Rolling Stone Age! We have lots of exciting activities planned and are looking forward to making a start now we are back for Term 5!

Forest School

Year 4 will continue to have Forest School on Monday afternoons with Melanie Gravett and Julie Carr. Please make sure your child has their 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 that can be borrowed). The weather has been anything but spring-like recently so please make sure that a hat and gloves are also with their kit if the weather turns cold again.

PE

Year 4 are going to be taking part in two PE lessons each week – tennis on a Tuesday afternoon and netball on a Friday morning. Please ensure that your child has the correct PE kit in school for these sessions. Where possible, it would help greatly if children could come into school on a Friday morning wearing their PE kits so that we can save a bit of time. (They should bring in their school uniform to change into after their PE lesson.)

Music Technology

These lessons, led by a specialist teacher from the Oxfordshire Music Service, will continue to take place on Tuesday afternoons.

Homework

We are returning our focus to homework now that the play is over and there are no more lines to be learnt! Please continue to support your child at home and remind them to complete all aspects of their homework. This may be in the form of reading, Times Table Rock Stars, Speed Maths sheets, MyMaths or spellings. Reading together is a very valuable activity so we would continue to encourage you to share books together, when possible. Ideally, we would like all children to read for at least 10 minutes every day – sometimes independently and sometimes reading out loud. Reading with a family member helps them to slow down and discuss the meaning of the text, which is hugely beneficial. Please also read **to** your child, as this helps them to develop a love of books, expands their vocabulary and enables them to access books at a slightly higher level than those they can read on their own.

Speed Maths sheets are going to be introduced this term. These are a different way of helping them learn their times tables and related division facts, whilst expanding their mathematical vocabulary. Children are encouraged to do these 2-3 times a week, seeing how many they can get right in 10 minutes. They can be completed in any order and children will be encouraged to change their own maths sheets each week.



Residential

The residential is fast approaching, with just three weeks to go from the start of term. Hopefully you have all seen the letter that went out about this before Easter, but please ask either of us if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 18th April – ‘Top Secret’ Topic launch afternoon

Wednesday 25th April – Class Photo

Saturday 28th April – Love Your School Day

Tuesday 8th May – Wednesday 9th May – Residential to Court Hill

Friday 25th May – PTFA Disco / break up for half term

Remember that if you would like to speak to one of us at any other time, please do 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