**Class 4 Foxes**





 **Newsletter**

 **Spring 1**

Hello and welcome back! I hope you all had a fantastic Christmas and New Year break! I can’t believe we’re already heading into our Spring 1 term. (Although the current weather would say otherwise!) place.

At the beginning of each term, I will upload the new term documents to the class page on the website, these will include everything that you and your child need to know ready for the upcoming term including:

* Medium term plan which says what we will be covering in each subject
* Newsletter with important dates for the term
* Weekly spellings for the term
* Knowledge Organisers for Topic, science, and Computing. These have useful facts and vocabulary on them to help support the children’s learning throughout the term.

**Topics we will be learning in Spring!**

During our Spring 1 term, we are going to be learning all about the Titanic! They’ll be learning about the most famous vessel of the early 20th century and investigating the history behind the Titanic and her infamous maiden voyage.

During science this term children are going to explore a variety of ways to identify, sort, group and classify living things. They learn how animals are split into 'vertebrates' and 'invertebrates' and begin to consider the differences between living things within these classifications. They use and create classification keys to group, identify and name living things from the local habitat and beyond. This unit also introduces children to the idea that environments are subject to human-made and natural changes, and that these changes can have a significant impact on living things.

For the topics children will be covering in all other subjects please make sure to have a look at the **Medium-Term Plan which is on our class page on the school website.**

**PE and Swimming in Class 4**

Due to C4 having swimming during the Spring term, we will only be having one PE lesson in school this term. **This will be taught on a Tuesday by Mr Woodhouse therefore the only day children need to come in their PE kit this term is on a Tuesday**. During their PE lesson children will be doing fitness and circuits. Please be aware that this year we would like children to follow our new PE policy in regards to PE uniform which is a plain white t-shirt, black/blue joggers or shorts and sensible footwear. No named brands or football shirts please.

Alongside our Tuesday PE lesson children will be going swimming on a Wednesday afternoon at Alfreton Leisure Centre, this will be led by swimming instructors from the leisure centre and teachers from school. Children will take the coach to Alfreton leisure centre at 2pm and will return to school for 3:30. **Please can you be mindful in regards to parking on the road outside school at the end of the day as the bus will be returning from the leisure centre and will need to turn round on the road.**

An information letter will be sent out this week that includes the dates which children will be swimming and information about what to bring/wear, and also a consent form. **Please make sure your child’s consent form is returned by Friday 12th January.**  Children will need to come into school on Wednesday in uniform but will need to bring their swimming kit with them. Any questions please feel free to ask me!

Last term we had lots of children lose their hoodies and other items of their PE kits, can you please ensure that your child’s uniform and PE kit have their name and class in.

**Reading expectation in school and at home**

In school children will be part of a guided reading group and will also have the opportunity to read individually to an adult at school. They will be expected to read at least 3 times a week at home, but **5 times is the ideal**. It does not always have to be their reading book, it may be a book of their own choice, a comic or even a newspaper. **It would be helpful if reading at home was recorded in their reading record by either the child an adult.**

Due to me being off during the Autumn 2 term I have given all children a new reading record so we can start fresh for Spring 1. Once children let me know that they have finished their reading book, they will change it and I will write their new book in their reading record. If your child does finish a book, they can log onto Bug Club and read a range of books from there, or they can do comprehension activities linking to the book they have read, this might be answering questions on the book, writing a book review, retelling the story etc.

Reading in KS2 is not just about fluency it is also about comprehension and understanding of the text, reading comprehension is something that we will be focussing on a lot this term in Class 4. Children who impress an adult in their daily guided reading sessions will receive a raffle ticket that goes into a termly raffle for the chance to win a book token at the end of each half term!

Please can children remember to bring their reading packets into school every day. Towards the end of last term we had lots of children who were forgetting their reading packets which meant that any reading that was done in school was unable to be recorded.

**Every Friday** I will check the reading children have done at home, any parent notes that have been written in there and I will also write down their homework, spelling rule and times table for the following week.

**Homework in Class 4**

There is a continued expectation that your child logs onto **Bug club, TT Rockstars and Spelling Shed at home**. (If your child’s Bug Club or TT Rockstar’s needs updating with new books or resources, please speak to me so I can add them)

Homework this term will continue to be set using the platforms **SumDog or Spelling Shed.** Sumdog is an online maths programme linking to the work we are doing in our maths lessons and Spelling shed links to the children’s weekly spellings. Homework will not be set every week but when it is I will write it in your child’s reading record and also send out a text. If your child has struggled with the homework for that week, I will hold an intervention session during assembly one day to go through it with them.

Every Friday I check which children have logged on and completed their homework, if homework is continuously not completed conversations with parents will be had to see how we can best support your child going forward.

Each term children will also be asked to complete a homework project relating to the topic that we are learning in class. Our topic for Spring 1 is the Titanic therefore I would like children to choose something that interests them about this topic and produce a piece of work around this. Their work could take any form. It could be a PowerPoint presentation, a piece of writing, a combination of typed up research and hand-drawn pictures, they might like to do some artwork or produce a model, write a story, song, or poem. We had some fantastic homework handed in last term! Children can complete their piece of topic homework at any point between now and February half term.

**Pencil Cases**

Last term lots of the children brought in lovely pencil cases and stationery from home. However, as the term went on these began causing problems in our classroom as stationery was getting broken or lost and also becoming a distraction during the input of our lessons. I have spoken to the children about this and we have agreed as a class that pencil cases are still allowed to be brought into school, however they are to stay in bags unless it is busy time, golden time or wet break time.

**School Trip**

Last term I had arranged for Class 4 to go on a school trip to the Crime and Punishment Museum in Nottingham to link to our topic, unfortunately due to staff illness and myself being off as well, we were not able to release enough staff out of school for the trip to go ahead. As I know this trip is something that children will really enjoy, I am planning to rearrange it for one day this term. Once I have been in contact with the museum and the coach company, I will send a letter out with further details.

**Parents Evening**

As I was unable to carry out our Autumn 2 Parents Evenings last term, these have now been rearranged for the 17th and 18th January. All booking slots have stayed the same, however if you are unable to now attend this time, please contact the school office to make a new appointment.

**Other useful information**

* If possible, could all uniform and water bottles please be **labelled!** Children will keep their jumpers on their pegs if they take them off and their water bottles will stay on their desks throughout the day. However, making sure everything is labelled just ensures no mix ups at home time!
* Mrs Pepper will teach the children for my PPA.
* Mrs Pepper will be helping out in Class 4 every morning
* **Every Friday** children will have a weekly spelling test and TT Rockstars test. Children have been given their weekly spellings for the term and the times table they need to practice for TT Rockstars is on the math’s section of the medium-term plan. I will send a text message home every Friday letting you know your child’s spelling score.
* On the South Wingfield website, we have a class page. At the beginning of term, I will upload all the term documents to this page and then throughout the term I will upload photos and videos of things that we get up to in Class 4! If you would like to have a look at these, you can find out class page under. Children- Class pages- Class 4 Foxes.

 **Diary Dates**

**Please go onto the school website and look at the whole school newsletter or calendar for any important dates this term. You can find both of these under the parents tab. If there are any important dates relating to our class, I will also add these to our newsletter.**

**17th and 18th January - C4 Parent’s Evening**

**12th January- Consent forms for swimming need to be returned**

**17th January- Swimming starts**

**16th February- Break up for half term**

If you have any questions regarding anything discussed in this newsletter, please feel free to drop me an email.

kwareham@southwingfield.derbyshire.sch.uk

I will respond to your query as soon as possible. However, I am teaching on arrival at school and throughout the day. If you email after 6pm, the message may not be seen until the next day. Therefore, if you need an urgent response, please phone the school office on 01773 832890

Best wishes

Miss Wareham