**Class 4 Foxes**





 **Newsletter**

 **Autumn 1**

Hello and welcome back! I hope you’ve all had a lovely six-week holidays and are ready for a fun filled year ahead! As you can tell from the title of this newsletter your child’s class for this year is Class 4 foxes. Each class now has a mascot which you can find out the names of on the class page section of our school website.

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- this will also be printed out
* Newsletter with important dates for the term – this will also be printed out
* Weekly spellings for the term- these will also be printed and put in the children’s bags
* 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 Autumn!**

During Autumn 1 children have the opportunity to explore Eastern Europe. Firstly, they will learn about the countries of Europe. They will then look in more detail at some of the contrasting areas of eastern Europe, finding out about the landscape, climate and locations in each area. Children will bring together their learning about one area of eastern Europe and create information booklets to share what they have found out. In the final lesson of the unit, children will find out more about Chernobyl and its impact on eastern Europe and the rest of the world.

During science this term children are going to be looking at grouping and classifying living things. Throughout this unit children will group animals, look at vertebrates and invertebrates, create their own classification keys and also group plants into a variety of categories.

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 in Class 4**

Children will have PE twice a week, one of them being taught by Amber Valley and the other being taught by their class teacher. Children will be coming into school dressed in their sports clothes therefore PE kits do not need to be brought into school. Please be aware that this year we would like children to follow our PE policy in regards to PE uniform which is a plain white/ black or blue t-shirt, black/blue joggers or shorts and sensible footwear. **No named brands or football shirts please.** For Class 4 children need to come in their PE kits on a **Tuesday and a Thursday.**

However due to C4 having forest school for 4 sessions this half term, and this counting as their second PE slot due to being active for the whole afternoon, **children will not need to wear their PE kit on Thursday 4th October, Thursday 10th October, Thursday 17th October, Thursday 24th October.**

**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 or an adult.**

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 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!

We have a huge variety of new books both in our school library and the reading corner in our classroom, my main aim as is to get as many children to love reading as possible, therefore if your child has finished book bands and is a library reader and is not enjoying the book they have chosen they are more than welcome to ask me if they can swap it. I don’t want any child to feel like they have to finish a book just because they’ve chosen it.

Children have received a reading record and a reading packet that they can use to keep their reading record and reading books in. **They will need to bring this into school daily**. This diary is a place where school and home can communicate, and you can also sign off your child’s reading at home.

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

**Homework in Class 4**

This week your child has been given a folder with all their log in details to our online schemes. (Spelling shed, TT Rockstars, Sumdog) It is important your child keeps this safe!

If children lose their username and password for an online scheme, please email me and I will resend it to you. There is an expectation that your child logs onto **TT Rockstars and Spelling Shed at home**.

Homework will be completed online using the platforms **SumDog or Spelling Shed.** I will be spending some time this week going through the websites with the children so they know how to access the activities that I will be setting on there. 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.

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 Autumn is Eastern Europe 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. Children can complete their piece of topic homework at any point during our Autumn 1 term and they are more than welcome to bring it into school to show the rest of the class and if possible, have it added to our topic display. However, if you would prefer to email your child’s topic homework to me then that is absolutely fine too! I can then print a picture of it out for display.

**Pencil Cases**

Last year lots of the children in my class brought in lovely pencil cases and stationery from home. However, as the year 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. All stationary that children need for lessons will be provided on their desks.

**Forest School**

Class 4 will be going to Forest Schools for 4 sessions this term. This will be happening on a Wednesday afternoon in the Forest with myself and Mrs Hicking. The dates that children will be going are as follows:

Wednesday 2nd October

Wednesday 9th October

Wednesday 16th October

Wednesday 23rd October

Please be aware that children will be outside in the forest all afternoon and it is October **therefore warm and suitable waterproof clothing will need to be worn, along with wellies.** Children will bring their Forest school clothes with them to school and get changed at lunch time before walking to the Forest. For Forest schools to be run safely and go ahead we require parent volunteers. You will meet at reception at 12:30 and walk down to the Forest with the children, take part in activities at the forest such as den building, fire lighting etc (free hot drink provided) and walk back to school with the children for home time at 3:30. If you are able to help out on any of the dates above, please drop me an email and let me know. Thank you!

**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 on a Thursday afternoon
* Mrs Pepper will be helping out in Class 4 every morning alongside Di.
* **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.**

**WC 7th October- Black History Month begins**

**25th October- Harvest Assembly**

**2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd October- Forest School**

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

I am so excited to have your child in my class and I’m looking forward to all the exciting this we are going to get up to during their time in Year 4/5!

Kind Regards

 Miss Wareham