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Year 3 and 4 Newsletter - January 2018

Welcome back to a New Year and a new term, we would like to say a very 'Happy New Year' and a very big thank you for all the gifts and cards you gave us for Christmas. They were all very much appreciated and it was very kind of you. The children are growing up so fast and are very well settled into their new classes. We are all very proud of them.

We would as a team like to take this opportunity to bid a very fond farewell and 'bon voyage' to our lovely Year 3 teacher Miss Turner. We have been extremely fortunate over the past 5 years to have benefitted greatly from her expertise and skills and the children have been very blessed to have encountered such an amazing teacher and we wish her lots of amazing memories in her journey ahead. Whilst we are sad to see her go we are also delighted to be able to welcome back Miss Carter to our team, whom many of you will remember from her previous time spent at Ingleby Mill. We are looking forward to making new memories with her and know that all the children and staff are excited for this new chapter.

What will your child be learning this term?

A new term brings a new topic or theme, and with it lots of exciting learning opportunities.

Year 3

We are starting the term with our **Wow! What a World!** topic. Your child will be learning about non-fiction texts in English, all about climates and extreme weather in Geography and about how plants grow in Science. We will also be hoping to arrange a visit to Margrove Heritage Centre and details of this will be sent out in due course. We will also be looking at light and why it is so fantastic and we are looking forward to creating lots more exciting experiments linked to this topic.

In Maths there will be a large focus on multiplication and division and your child will be learning how to compute larger written calculations using more formal methods such as column addition. If you recall we sent out a calculation policy in the Autumn Term with an explanation of these methods, but if you require a further copy please don't hesitate to ask.

In English we are really enjoying reading our class book together, 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'. We have multiple copies in school which the class share and read along and the opportunities to discuss a more complex text are vast. We continue to focus heavily on handwriting and presentation in our books asking that the children use their cursive script with clear ascenders and descenders and this is a skill that can always be worked on at home!

Year 4

In Year 4 the children will be studying how to read maps as well as a Geography topic, 'Exploring Eastern Europe'. This will provide the opportunity to explore, compare and consider different locations and lifestyles. Linked to this the children will have the fantastic experience of learning Samba drumming with Mr Thompson from the Tees Valley Music Service. The main focus in English will be creating our own stories and learning more about writing based on our class reading book, 'Gangsta Granny' by David Walliams. In Maths we will continue to consolidate computation skills, especially multiplication and division and the important aspect of applying these to problem solving. Science lessons will cover changes of state and the water cycle. In art we will look at the work of Frederick Hundertwasser leading to producing our own art work in the same style. In DT we will be looking at structures so that we can create our own strong and tall structures. Comic Life and Garageband will be the focus for computing along with a continued focus on e-safety. RE covers places of worship with reference to Synagogues. The children will be learning lots of animal vocabulary and related grammar in French.



Homework

In Year 3 and Year 4 Maths homework will continue to focus on learning multiplication tables and related division facts. There will also be activities on Abacus to complete; this will be linked to the work your child is doing in class. Please keep an eye on DB Primary - we keep adding links, tasks and new forums to comment on. There may be other homework related to our English and our topic work as it arises. We will continue to send you spellings home to learn and we would like to reiterate that we are learning the spelling rule and not just the spellings in isolation and so therefore in your child's spelling test this may include words that they have not seen before but which follow the spelling pattern.

PE

Please can we remind you that with PE kits, children need an indoor kit (shorts and t-shirt) and an outdoor PE kit (**track-suit type top, track-suit type trousers and trainers**). These should be sent to school in one drawstring bag. Trainers are preferable for outdoor safety. Indoor PE shoes are not needed. For P.E the children need to be able to remove their own earrings or leave them at home on P.E. days. For safety children also need to have long hair tied back for PE lessons.

Swimming

This term will see Miss Humphrey and Mrs Watson's class attend their swimming lessons and details will be sent home via a letter to their class. This will commence from Monday 29th January to Friday 9th February.

Year 3 Swimming will commence on Monday 19th February until Friday 2nd March and this will be with Mrs Wilson's class. Again individual letters will be sent out to classes at a later date with more information.

Dairy Dates!

Class Assemblies

We have already sent home a list of assembly dates via our previous Newsletter but just in case you needed a reminder, here they are again.

Mrs Williams	Friday 19 th January
Mrs Wilson	Friday 26 th January
Mrs Antonini/Mrs Dohring	Friday 2 nd February
Miss Turner	Friday 9 th February
Mr Rix	Friday 20 th April

All assemblies will start at 9.45 am and please use the main entrance to enter school.

Parent Consultations

These consultations will take place after half term and will begin the week commencing 19th February. They will be held on Monday 19th February as well as Wednesday 21st February. (Miss Turner will join with Miss Carter during these consultations to ensure a smooth handover between teachers).

Half Term

We break up for half term on Friday 9th February and return to school on Monday 19th February.

We also break up for the Easter Holidays on Wednesday 28th March (as Thursday 29th March is a PD Day) and we return to school on Monday 16th April.

Again we would like to thank you for all your support at Ingleby Mill from all the Teachers and Teaching Assistants in Year 3 and 4.