



Year 3 and 4 Newsletter

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter. We hope you've all had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas holiday!

We are looking forward to an action-packed term full of exciting learning opportunities. As part of our continuing topic of Contrasting Localities, we will be studying Southampton. This part of the unit focuses on the Portswood area and the children will be visiting their pen pals at Portswood Primary as well as conducting field work studies in Southampton. We then 'fly' off to the Italian Alps to look at mountains before moving on to the city of Rome.

In English, we will begin by holding a 'Jumpstart January' to allow the children to recap on the skills they learnt last term before moving on to looking at our rich texts. One exciting event will be a visit from Blue Sky Theatre Company who will perform their 'Shakespeare Rewired' workshop. This exciting day will lead into our unit on *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Our first science topic is Animals Including Humans which looks at healthy eating and the digestive system. Next half term, we will have fun exploring solids, liquids and gases.

Hambledon Learning Base will begin their ukulele lessons whilst Meonstoke and Droxford discover the musical suite *The Carnival of the Animals*. In art we will be studying the work of a British artist and trying to recreate their techniques. In the second half term, we will move on to DT where children will design a warning sign using LED lights. In RE we will explore trees as symbols and look at the concept of suffering through the Easter story.

Of course the highlight of the term for Year 4s will be our residential to Runways End. Year 3s won't miss out though, as they will immerse themselves in a fascinating history topic for the week back at school.

Helping your child at home

We love it when children are so enthused by something they've learned at school, that they do further research at home. We particularly like to see any artefacts you may have or extra projects that the children have been inspired to do. Also we value your expertise so if you have particular knowledge or skills about any of our subjects that you could share then please get in touch.

Please continue to encourage your child to bring their reading diary in every day. They are an important record of their reading and are often used in guided reading and English sessions. Listening to your children read is really important, even for confident readers, as discussing the book helps to improve their understanding. Children need to be practicing their spellings and also be learning the rule. For maths, it's a case of tables, tables, tables! Practising them in a variety of ways to encourage speed and accuracy will make maths lessons easier for your child!

Special events for Year 3 and 4

Field Trip to Southampton and visit to Portswood Primary School -Wednesday 1st March

World Book Day- Thursday 2nd March

Runways End - Monday 3rd April-Wednesday 5th April