



Year 3 and 4 Spring Newsletter



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

We are looking forward to an exciting term, action-packed **geography focussed term!** As part of our continuing topic of '**Contrasting Localities**', we will be going on a **walk around Droxford village** before **contrasting the city of Southampton**. The children will be **visiting Portswood Primary School** to see what it is like to **learn in an inner city school**; conduct field work studies in and around the historic centre of Southampton; observe the river and commercial port and develop their map work knowledge and skills. We will then 'fly' off to the Italian Alps to look at **mountains** before moving on to the **city of Rome**, just in time for our summer topic, **The Romans!**

In English, we will start the term by reading the book '**The Boy who Swam with Piranhas**' written by **David Almond**. In the second half term, we will be taking part in the annual Hampshire Illustrated Non-Fiction Book Awards before moving onto some detective work with '**Dragonology**'!

Our first science topic is **Electricity** where we will be **making circuits and studying insulators and conductors**. This will then lead into our second topic '**Light**' where we will be focusing on how light is reflected and why shadows are formed.

Hambledon Learning Base will begin their **ukulele** lessons with Mrs Graham (Hampshire Music Service) whilst Meonstoke and Droxford will learn about the **musical suite *The Carnival of the Animals***. In **art** we will be studying the work of **two contrasting British artists** and will try to recreate their techniques when producing their own pieces of original painting. 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 **the Church and the community** (and visit / study Droxford church) and look at the concept of suffering through the **Easter story**.

Of course the highlight of the term for the Year 4s will be their **residential to Runways End**. The Year 3 children won't miss out though, as they will be exploring a fascinating and colourful history topic whilst the Year 4s are away.

Helping your child at home

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. Children need to be practising their spellings and also be learning the rules. 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! Don't forget Times Table Rockstars!

Special events for Year 3 and 4

- Geography focussed village walk January 7/8/9th (Droxford/Hambledon/Meonstoke)
- Parents Evening 12/13th February
- Field Trip to Southampton and visit to Portswood Primary School – Tuesday 5th March
- World Book Day- Thursday 7th March
- Year 4 residential - Runways End – Monday 1st April -Wednesday 3rd April