



Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents/carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had a fantastic summer holiday. Hopefully, you have all enjoyed the sunshine between the rainy days.

It has been lovely to have the children back this week and to get into the swing of things. We have an exciting year ahead of us in Year 3 and 4.

This letter will give you a brief overview of some of the key information for this term, including the trips and events coming up.

### **Start of the Day**

The children in Year 3 and 4 are expected to come into school by themselves where possible. We also encourage them to be responsible for their own belongings and organisation. If you need to pass on important messages to your teacher, please do this via the senior leader on the school gate. Alternatively, contact the school office and leave a message; we will get back to you as soon as possible.

### **PE Days**

As mentioned on previous school information, the children will come to school in their PE kit on their designated school days. Please remember that our PE kit is a red t-shirt, black or red jumper, black shorts or jogging bottoms and trainers. Please ensure that this kit is appropriate for the weather. A light waterproof is a great addition for wet days.

PE days:

AJA – Tuesdays and Wednesdays

BPH - Mondays and Fridays

CDI - Mondays and Tuesdays

AWE - Mondays and Fridays

### **Forest School**

This term, it is important that children remember their forest school things including wellies, a jumper and waterproofs each week for their sessions. All four classes will have forest school this term on the following days.

AJA - Tuesdays

BPH - Tuesdays

CDI - Wednesdays

AWE - Wednesdays

### **Topic and Trips**

This term our history enquiry question is, "Should Elizabeth I be known as Elizabeth the Great?" This enquiry will be focused around the children using sources of evidence to learn about the Tudor period. The children will learn about Tudor life and gain an understanding of what life was like at the time. We will then move onto look at Elizabeth I and her role as a monarch. Finally, we will critique evidence to consider Elizabeth I's role and lasting legacy as a British monarch.

To drive our enquiry, we will be having a Tudor day and are hoping to have a visit from Elizabeth I herself! We are also hoping to visit Exeter to immerse ourselves in what Tudor life was like.

### **Author Visit**

Excitingly, we also have our annual author visit coming up. On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September, Gill Lewis a fantastic author will be visiting Sticklepath to entertain the classes. Gill is a prolific fiction author who has written the brilliant series of books called Puppy Academy and the Willow Wildthing series, which we know the children will love discovering.

We will keep the cost of these trips to a minimum. It is *estimated* that the cost of the author visit, Tudor day and Exeter trip will be around £15 per child. Thank you in anticipation of your support with this.

### **Library Books**

Library and class reading books can now be taken home. It is essential that these books are well cared for; every year we lose many books which have to be replaced at a significant cost. Please ensure they are kept safe and are well loved! It is important to make sure the children have a book in school every day. If your child brings a school book home, please ensure that it comes back to school every day.

### **Home Learning**

We will resume our home learning on Google Classroom next Friday. This homework will also be available as a paper copy for those children who do not have access to a device or Google Classroom at home. It is important that the children engage with their home learning as we ensure it links to key fluency learning, their current weeks learning or is a great way to consolidate their understanding.

In Year 3 and 4, all children are expected to read every day at home to an adult. This is so that they can continue developing their fluency in reading aloud, expression and confidence.

### **Oracy**

This year, as a school, we are continuing to put a huge emphasis on children's oracy. We have seen huge differences in the children's oracy skills over the last two years and the impact could be seen in all areas from on the playground into the classroom and at home. Oracy is the ability to express oneself fluently through speech and conversation. As part of this, we will set regular oracy homework, which could involve debates, discussions or presentations at home. As a team, we would be grateful if you could encourage this to be completed at home. Speaking is a skill that is invaluable throughout life and will only improve through practise!

Lastly, if there are any adults that would like to do some volunteer reading with Year 3 / 4 please contact the office or your child's class teacher. The children love reading aloud to adults so it would be much appreciated.

## **Meet the Teacher**

This year our Meet the Teacher days will be Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October. These meetings are a chance for you to meet your child's new class teacher and to discuss any important information regarding your child. It is also a chance for teachers to let you know how your child has settled into their new year group and class. Further information about how to book appointments will be sent out in October.

We look forward to an exciting fun-filled year ahead! Thank you in advance for all of your support.

Year 3 and 4 Team

Miss Phillips, Miss Jackson, Miss Ditchfield and Miss Wedlake