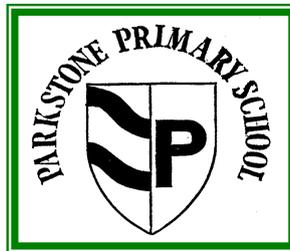


Parkstone Primary School

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Headteacher – Mrs Sarah Waller

'Learning Together'

Friday 14th September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the new academic year! We are thrilled to see all pupils refreshed and ready to learn in their new classrooms. We have a very exciting year ahead!

This term our topic is:



Children will learn about how the Romans came to Britain and how Britain changed as a result. We will also learn about life as a Roman soldier and our visit to Murton Park in October will be a fantastic opportunity for children to dress up and pretend to be a Roman soldier for the day. A detailed trip letter will be sent out shortly. Our science topic for the first half term is sound. In this topic we will learn about how sound is made, how sound travels and there will be an opportunity for us to make our own percussion instruments. On the back of this letter you will find the objectives that the pupils will be covering over the term, including the key questions that will be the basis of the pupils' learning.

A few reminders:

- **Teachers** – Year 3 teachers are Mrs Woollin and Mrs Gill. Year 4 teachers are Mrs Damary-Thompson and Mrs Wigglesworth (Monday – Wednesday) and Mrs Holtby (Wednesday afternoon – Friday).
- **PE** – Wednesday (outdoor) and Thursday (indoor). Please ensure that your child has the correct PE kit on these days – white T-shirt, black/navy shorts, jogging/tracksuit bottoms, fleece/hoodie/sweat top and trainers. Trainers are very important so that children are able to participate fully in the lesson. Ear-rings must be removed for PE (only studs should be worn for school) or taped over. Please provide the tape but children will be expected to do this independently in Year 3 and 4.
- **Uniform** – please name all items of clothing that your child wears to school. Especially important are coats, shoes, cardigans and jumpers as these are very easily mislaid!
- **Dinner money** – from Year 3 parents are required to pay 50p daily for a school meal. This can be paid daily, weekly or monthly. However, please send money in a named envelope where possible.
- In Year 3 and 4, your child will receive weekly homework and spellings to learn as well as a termly home-school project. In addition, they will be expected to read three times a week. They are then rewarded as part of our **'Leading Learners'** programme. Please sign their reading record as evidence of the reading taking place.

We are all very excited about our first term with our new classes and hope that your child is too. As always, if there is anything you would like to ask, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see us.

Yours sincerely,

The Year 3 & 4 team

Mrs Woollin, Mrs Gill, Mrs Damary-Thompson, Mrs Wigglesworth and Mrs Holtby

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Literacy

Year 3: Reading

We will be reading 'The owl who was afraid of the dark' by Jill Tomlinson. We will be identifying unfamiliar words and checking their meanings through discussion and the use of dictionaries. We will also be developing our comprehension skills and giving reasons for our predictions.

Year 3 Writing:

For our writing we will be using the book 'Orion and the dark' by Emma Yarlett as our stimulus. We will use inverted commas to show speech and use this in our own story writing. We will also be continuing to develop neat, joined handwriting and have weekly spelling tests.

Year 4 Reading:

'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes will be our book for the first half term. We will further develop our dictionary skills and learn other strategies for checking the meaning of unknown words.

Year 4 Writing:

'Escape from Pompeii' by Christina Balit will be the focus for our writing. It is set in ancient Roman times and will tie in nicely with our theme. We will develop our use of descriptive through the use of expanded noun phrases and we will also learn about the features of a newspaper report, culminating in writing our own version of a newspaper report. We will also be continuing to develop stamina in the fluency of our handwriting and having weekly spelling tests.

Science:

As Scientists we will be learning about sound and light. We will learn how sound is made, how sound travels and investigate ways of soundproofing and making sounds change. When we begin our light topic (after half term) we will start by understanding that dark is the absence of light. Following this, the children will investigate mirrors, reflective surfaces and shadows.

In Year 3 & 4

Our topic for the Autumn Term is The Rotten Romans



History and Geography

As our theme is 'The Rotten Romans', we will be having a focus on History. We will learn about how and why the Romans came to Britain and what life was like during Roman times. We will also visit Murton Park in York and spend a day dressed as a Roman soldier. The children will end to topic by creating a Roman Museum.

R.E.

In R.E. our topic is 'Remembering'. We will be discussing the different events that people remember and the different ways they are celebrated. Following this we will focus on specific events that different faiths remember and celebrate.

Important dates:

Monday 22nd October - Year 4 trip to Murton Park.

Tuesday 23rd October - Year 3 trip to Murton Park

Thursday 8th November - visit to Cineworld

Maths

Year 3:

In Maths we will begin with understanding the place value of 3-digit numbers. We will use a range of equipment to represent 3-digit numbers and develop our reasoning skills when explaining our methods and answers to problems. We will then move onto learning formal calculation methods for addition and subtraction of 3-digit numbers.

Year 4:

In Maths we will be learning about the place value of 4-digit numbers and comparing them in a range of relevant real life contexts. We will progress onto formal written methods for addition and subtraction of 4-digit numbers, building on our learning from Year 3.

Computing:

In computing we will be learning how to use coding to become programmers. We will finish the unit by designing and creating our own computer game using code.

Art, Design and Technology

As part of our topic on the Romans, we will be designing and making mosaics and also learning some woodwork skills when we make a Roman catapult.

P.E.

Outdoor PE is on a Wednesday this term and we will be developing our team and invasion games. Indoor PE is on a Thursday and we will be practising and creating dance routines.

