

Junior newsletter -Spring Term 2018

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back everyone. We hope you have had a lovely Christmas and we wish you and your family a very happy new year.

This newsletter is for you to have a brief overview of what is going to happen in Years 3-6 during the spring term. As the term progresses, look out for extra information on Mr Chandler's newsletter.

LITERACY

Reading at home is very important. Please can we ask you to continue supporting our work in school by discussing vocabulary with your child and asking them to summarise what they have read and predict what may happen next? It would also be helpful if you could also make comments in your child's reading record. Furthermore, please can you remind your child to return their reading packet with their reading record every day?

We will continue to work on fiction, non-fiction and poetry in English lessons. Also, your child will work on grammar skills - identifying all the elements that go to make up our English language. This year there will be a greater focus on spelling practice in particular. Your child will be sent home spellings to learn and we will be reporting back to you regularly on how well your child is progressing.

NUMERACY

In the juniors there is an expectation that your child will learn their times tables and division facts with rapid recall. The children need to keep practising their times tables as they will be tested regularly

in class. Any help you can give your child with their tables does make a difference, so please support your child in their learning.

TOPIC

Years 5/6 will be learning all about space in spring 1. They will be looking at forces within science and famous people in history.

After the half term break, year 5/6 will be looking at light and shadows and for geography, reading maps and learning about ancient civilisations.

For art and design, the children will learning about printing and sculpture.

In music, along with looking at Mexican ancient civilisations they will be learning about Mexican music!

Years 3 and 4 topic in spring 1 is 'Tribal Tales' - where the children will learn what Britain was like during the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. The children will also be recreating art work from these historical times. For Science, the children will look at light and how shadows are formed. During spring 2, the topic is all about predator science. In addition, there will be a plant science focus too.

FRENCH

Y3 'La Jungle' and 'Tutti Frutti'

Y4 'Les Animaux' and 'Au Marche'

Y5 'Cher Zoo' and 'Le Petit Dejeuner'

Y6 'Le Carnival Les Animaux' and 'Au Café'

PE

We start the year with a swimming gala for Y5/6 at Thirsk Swimming Pool. Following this, years 3-4 will be swimming. Your teacher will inform you when your child is going.

Other sports activities for Y5/6 include 'quicksticks hockey' and football.

Y3/4 will be doing gym, swimming, tag rugby and cross country.

We would like to remind parents that children require a proper kit for both games and PE - **a white T-shirt and black shorts for PE** and in addition to these, **trainers** for games. **Tracksuits are allowed** for outdoor games lessons. Mr Chandler is monitoring PE kits across school this year, children who consistently forget their kit will be reported to him.

Could we also ask that for health and safety reasons, earrings be left at home on PE and games days to prevent loss or injury? If your child has had their ears pierced recently please inform their class teacher as children are expected to remove earrings for PE and games. Long hair must be tied back.

ICT

Y3/4 will be looking at keyboard skills and presentation techniques.

Y5/6 will be completing spreadsheets using Excel.

PSHEC

Y6: 'Developing positive friendships' and 'Money matters'.

Y4 'Money matters' and 'Who likes chocolate?'

Y5/3 'Living long, living strong' and 'daring to be different'. All topics aim to help children with social and emotional skills.

HOMEWORK

Children will continue to bring a reading book home each night, In addition, they will be expected to learn their spellings and the current times table multiplication and division facts. Furthermore, additional homework will be given weekly and must be returned.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FOR THIS HALF TERM

Tuesday 9th January - Cosmodome visit Y6

Wednesday 10th January - Y3 swimming

Monday 15th January - Pupil of the Term day

Tuesday 16th January - Young Voices at Sheffield

Tuesday 16th January - Y5/6 swimming gala squad.

Tuesday 23rd January - GYM competition from Y1-6 at the High School

Thursday 8th February - KS2 Dodgeball competition

Friday 9th Feb School closes normal time

Monday 19th February - school re-opens.

Monday 19th Feb/26th Feb - Y6 Bikeability

Thursday 22nd Feb - Y5/6 Hi Five at the High School

Thursday March 8th - Y3/4 Quick sticks

Thursday 22nd March - Y5 Enrichment Day at the High school

Thursday 22nd March - 3PR assembly

Thursday 29th March - SCHOOL closes at 2.30pm

We hope this information is useful to you. Please do not hesitate to call in and see us if you need anything.

L Turner, M Challenger, C Entwistle, Mrs Thomson, L Webster, V Twinn, B Payne, S Wallace, J Wilson, J Atkinson, M Cooke, J Bullock, S Collier, L Moores, S Ashworth, K Porritt and J Headdock.
