

Summer Newsletter

Class 4

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had an enjoyable Easter Break. It seems hard to believe that your child is in their final term in Year 4. The year seems to pass by very quickly. Our topic for this term is "All Creatures Great and Small" and I am planning two trips - a free local trip to a farm in the first half-term and a trip to Twycross Zoo in the second half of the term. There will be more information on these at a later date.

The Newsletter briefly outlines what we will be doing this term, but if you have any further questions, feel free to come and speak to me before or after school or alternatively you could e-mail me on staff06@croft.staffs.sch.uk.



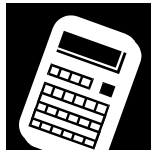
Literacy

The children will be doing work from four units this term. Firstly, Stories from other Cultures. We will be reading stories from South Africa and Australia and linking them to our topic where possible. Secondly, a poetry unit on Creating Images where the children will be looking at the language used in poetry and writing poems themselves. The third unit is another poetry unit called Exploring Form where the children will read, analyse and perform poems. I will be including, in both units, many poems which have animals in them. Finally, the fourth unit is a Non-fiction unit about Persuasive texts. The children will be exploring the issues of endangered animals

Alongside these, the children will be learning how to improve sentence structure and punctuation, with particular emphasis on paragraphs, the use of the comma, apostrophe and speech marks. They will be expected to incorporate these into their writing.

The children will continue with their weekly spellings which are given out on a Wednesday and tested the following Wednesday.

In all of their written work the children will now be expected to be doing joined handwriting, in pen. Could you therefore please ensure that your child has a suitable pen in school.



Numeracy

We will still continue to start our Numeracy lessons with the Minute Maths. The children really seem to be moving on with these now.

In the main part of our lessons, we will be covering area and perimeter, angles, fractions and decimals, multiplication and division, time, symmetry and reflection of shapes plus solving problems using all aspects of number.

It will be really helpful for the children to know all of their multiplication tables before going into Year 5 so I would appreciate it if you could support your child with this.



Science

Our two topics for this term are connected with Humans and Animals. The first is about Habitats, followed by Moving and Growing.



Creative Curriculum

This will incorporate all the other areas of the curriculum. In "All Creatures Great and Small" we will be finding out about pets, farm animals, wild animals and their habitats. We will be exploring why animals became extinct and how we can save endangered animals. The children will be making an animal story book with pop-ups, flaps etc to share with a child in Reception Class. We will be exploring the school grounds hunting for mini beasts which we will identify and draw. These drawings will then be incorporated into group collages of wild life. We will be learning animal songs and listening to "The Carnival of the Animals". Following this, the children will be composing their own musical extracts to depict animal sounds. Throughout the topic the children will be using ICT to research information about animals, to word process their work and to produce a branching data base for identifying mini beasts.



PE

This term, Y4 will be doing PE on a Thursday afternoon. This will be gymnastics so they will need their indoor PE kit on this day. They do not need pumps as gymnastics is done barefooted.

However we have been fortunate to be offered a coach for tag rugby, so on a Wednesday afternoon for 5 weeks, commencing April 28th, the children will need their outdoor games kit for these sessions. This will be instead of gymnastics.

We will be continuing with games on a Friday afternoon. This term the children will be doing Rounders, Cricket, Tennis and Athletics.

Can you please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit for all of these sessions ?

French

The children will continue to learn French. This term they will be learning words and sentences connected to *Dats, farm animals and wild animals*

The children in year 4 will be doing Optional SAT's tests in the week beginning May 17th.

Homework will continue to be given out on a Friday, to be returned on the following Thursday. I hope you will encourage your child to get into good habits regarding completing Homework on time.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support and encouragement that you have given to your child during their time in Year 4 and to wish them well for their final two years at the Croft.

Mrs S Clift