



Dear Parents and Carers,

Venus Autumn Term Learning Letter

Hello and welcome to Venus class! The children have made a fantastic start to Year 4 and I am looking forward to seeing what we can achieve together this term. The adults in Venus class this year are Miss Swift and Miss Smith. Mrs Milsom will teach the children once a fortnight and she is very excited to work with them!

We have lots of exciting learning planned this term - in our writing lessons we will be using 'The Whale' by Ethan and Vita Murdow to inspire our writing and then after half term, we will be using 'Leaf' by Sandra Dieckmann. In maths, we will spend the first Term solidifying our Place Value and Addition and Subtraction Knowledge before learning about Area and Multiplication and Division in Term 2.

All the children take part in whole class reading lessons every day, which includes, but is not limited to, our class reading texts - 'The Water Horse' by Dick King Smith for Term 1 and 'The Legend of Captain Crow's Teeth' by Eoin Colfer for Term 2. The children have new home reading records. Please try to read with your child every night and record it in his/her home reading record. We ask that children read at least four times per week. This can be reading to themselves, and they are welcome to do the recording in their records, but we still ask that some of these reads are to an adult. If they haven't read four times, they will be asked to catch up in school. Where possible this will be in class time, but may have to roll into lunchtime if time is tight. If your child is choosing their own books and isn't enjoying their current book, please encourage them to change it - we have an extensive class library and children have opportunities throughout the day to use this.

We have lots of exciting learning planned for the afternoons too. This includes, but is not limited to, learning about Rivers in Geography, The Tudors in History and States of Matter and Sound in Science.

Additional homework will be sent home on a Monday and will be due the following Monday. As children settle into Year 4 and spellings and times tables are so important, if homework is not handed in, children will spend some of their break time completing it (whilst leaving them enough time to have a run-around outside!) to ensure they are getting in their practice, and to help them develop good habits ready for moving towards the upper end of the school. Times tables are tested daily in our maths

sessions after lunch, and children do their spellings every morning when they come in to ensure we can support them to progress.

As you may know, as of 2020, the Government introduced a multiplication tables check for Key Stage 2. This is intended for us as a school to identify children who have not yet mastered this important mathematical skill so we can give them additional support. This will incorporate times tables up to 12 x 12. The children will take this check at the end of Year 4, therefore we would appreciate your support with practising their times tables at home. This can be through the homework folder, online or orally. As the year goes on, I will pop some links onto Dojo to support their practice - the more practice they can get in, the better!

PE takes place on a Tuesday and Wednesday. Please have PE kits in school every day. As it becomes colder you may wish to provide your child with a named tracksuit/sweatshirt. A plastic bag for dirty or wet clothes that require washing would also be very useful, as we will try to brave most weathers! Please label all items of uniform and PE kit, including daps/trainers.

It has been wonderful to see the children make such a brilliant start to Year 4 and to have so many smiles in the classroom, I am really looking forward to seeing what we can achieve together. If you have any queries please feel free to contact me on Class Dojo or make an appointment in the office.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Swift