

Newnham Croft Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr E. Ferguson



5 January 2024

Curriculum Letter Year 4 – Mrs Cullen and Mr Orton

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you all had a safe and enjoyable break. This term we will be starting a new topic based on 'Who lives in Antarctica?' You will find a breakdown of the skills and areas of the curriculum the children will be covering on the topic overview that can be found on the school's website. If you are an expert in this area and would like to come into school and share your knowledge with the children please speak to us before or after school. We would also appreciate any books or resources you may have to help us make the topic as interesting as possible.

Start and End of the Day

The bell for the start of the day will continue to be rung at 8.45am and the children will line up. At this point, we would ask that the adults who have accompanied their children leave the playground. The second bell will then go and the children will be led into school by their class teacher. The children will be sent to the front playground for collection at 3.15pm. I would be grateful if you could ensure that your child arrives promptly for the start of the school day as this avoids disruption. If your child is late, please sign them in at the office.

School lunches

Payment is made through the school comms/gateway payment app, if you decide to select this option for your child. The school dinner menu is displayed in the school kitchen window and emailed with the weekly newsletter. You may prefer instead to send your child in with a packed lunch which needs to be placed on the trolleys in the playground at the start of the school day.

Snacks and Water Bottles

Healthy snacks can be supplied from home if you would like your child to have one at break times. We would be grateful if you could continue to send your child's labelled water bottle to school each day. Drinking water regularly during the day obviously helps to keep them fully hydrated.

PE times and Active Wear

Our PE slots for this term continue to be on Thursday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. Please can you ensure that your child has suitable clothing and footwear (in line with the school's activewear policy) not just on these days but for the whole of the week as PE times may change due to unforeseen circumstances. Active wear means: Clothes and footwear comfortable and appropriate for physical activity (not sandals).

PPA Cover

PPA will be covered on Wednesday afternoons by Mrs Onatskaia (Music) and Premier Sports (PE) in order for us to carry out planning, preparation and assessment activities.

Forest Schools and Outdoor Classroom

The children will be using the areas outside the classroom to extend their learning as well as Forest school sessions. Our date for Forest Schools for the Spring Term will be communicated to you nearer the time. We ask that you provide a waterproof coat, trousers and wellies on these days but also ensure that your child is suitably dressed on other school days so that we can enjoy the outside space around the school, whatever the weather.

Reading

We hope you have enjoyed listening to your child reading over the holidays. It is vital to stimulate a love of reading at this age and to nurture an ability to discuss what they have read. Listening to your child read daily is highly recommended. Your child will continue to have the opportunity to select a few reading books they wish to take home for the week. They are able to change their book whenever they have finished reading it. We always encourage the children to select a broad selection of books that encompass a wide range of different genres. We would encourage you to listen to your child read for around 10-15 minutes a day and to discuss afterwards what they have recalled.

School Trip

We are hoping to organise a trip that is connected to our topic at some point during the term. Details of this will be sent out nearer the time.

Performance

In the second half of the term Year 3 and 4 will be doing a joint performance for parents and carers. We will inform you of the arrangements in due course.

Spellings and TimesTables Rockstars

Each Friday, a list of spellings will be available for you to look at with your child. The follow up test will continue to be on a Friday. Your child should have a username and password for Times Tables Rockstars, which is an online platform that your child can use to practise their times tables. The online multiplication check is in June and Times Tables Rockstars can help them prepare for this.

Open Afternoon and Parents Consultations

You will have the opportunity to share your child's learning after school on Monday 5th February between 3.15- 4.15pm.

Parent consultations will take place the following week on Monday 12th February between 3.15- 6.15pm, Tuesday 13th February between 1.00 and 3.00pm and Wednesday 14th February between 1.00 and 3.00pm.

Communication

If you wish to talk to us regarding any aspect of your child's schooling please feel free to briefly chat to us at the start or end of the school day or email the school office and we will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.

Kindest Regards,

Mrs Cullen and Mr Orton
(Class Teachers)