



Autumn Newsletter - Year 4



Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back to school! The children have been busy this week, discussing many things such as the school rules and values, as well as establishing rules and routines for the year.

What will we be learning this term?

In **Maths** we will be focusing on the four basic operations, including learning and consolidating knowledge of the 6 and 7 times tables. The children will also learn to round any number to the nearest 10, add numbers with up to 4 digits using column addition and compare and classify geometric shapes.

In **English** our whole class reading text is 'The Firework-Maker's Daughter' by Phillip Pullman. Our whole class reading text is 'The BFG' by Roald Dahl. This links to our Cornerstones topic below.

In **R.E.**, our focus is, 'How Did Belief in God Affect the Actions of People in the Old Testament?'

Our new **Cornerstones** topic for the term is 'Potions'. This topic focuses on Science and within that we will be learning about how to compare and group materials, make careful observations and carry out fun experiments.

Swimming

Every Thursday, the children have a swimming lesson at Porchester Baths. Please ensure that your child brings, in a clearly labelled bag, a school regulation swimming costume (two pieces are not permitted) or trunks, a towel, goggles and a swimming cap.

Whole class music project

The class will be taking part in a whole class music project, where they will be learning to play a wind instrument. Further details to follow.

If you wish to speak with me, please make an appointment via the office or send a note with your child. Please understand that mornings are an extremely busy time and unfortunately I will not have time to speak with you.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the Parents and Teacher meeting on 20th September.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs G Chadwick

Home learning

To support your child's learning and progress in Maths, please practice the 6 and 7 times tables with them at home.

To support your child's learning and progress in English, please encourage them to use a dictionary to locate the meaning of unfamiliar words they encounter in their reading. You could begin to create your own dictionary of new words.

Here are some ideas for further optional activities you may like to do at home:

Make a list of all the solids, liquids and gases you can find at home.

Are they kept safely?

Make home-made perfume or potions using things you find in the garden or bathroom. **Before you start, seek an adult's permission and supervision.** Which substances are safe to use? Use a pestle and mortar to grind the things you find. Add liquid and strain to get rid of the lumpy bits. What have you made?

Which units of measurement are present in your home? For example, a clock measures seconds, minutes and hours. Where can you find other examples?

Make ice lollies at home.

Can you add a surprise ingredient that reveals itself as the ice melts?

Visit your local library or book shop to search for other plays and stories on the theme of potions.

Write a book review and share with other in your class.