



Autumn Newsletter - Year 4



Term 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all those who attended Parent's Evening last week, and to those who have arranged an alternative time to meet me. If you haven't already, please get in touch to arrange a meeting time.

We had an enjoyable visit to the London Sea Life Centre on Friday. This was an Engage activity to stimulate the children's interest in our new Cornerstones topic.

What will we be learning this term?

In **Mathematics** we have introduced the **White Rose Scheme**. Our focus will be on addition and subtraction of 4 digit numbers, in particular.

In **English** our whole class reading text is 'Sam Wu is NOT Afraid of Sharks' by Katie and Kevin Tsang. Our whole class English text is 'Shackleton's Journey'. This links to our Cornerstones topic below.

In **R.E.** we have two topics: 'What are The Beatitudes and What Do They Mean for Christians?' and we also have a peace-based topic. Later on in the term, there will also be preparation for the Nativity and the children will be learning and revisiting some Christmas carols.

Our new **Cornerstones** topic for the term is 'Blue Abyss'. This is a science topic which focuses on living things and their habitats, different animals and the process of working scientifically whilst making links to the other curriculum areas.

Swimming

Swimming for Year 4 has now finished to allow another class the opportunity to learn this important life skill. Further information regarding swimming in the future will be sent home later in the term.

Whole-class music project

The class will be continuing to take part in the whole-class music project. As time progresses, they will be provided with some home-based learning to reinforce what is being taught in the sessions.

Home learning

To support your child's learning and progress in Maths, please practise 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:

- Why is the ocean blue? Go on... find out!
- How many amazing shark facts can you find? Build them into a PowerPoint presentation to show the rest of the class. Remember to include images and perhaps some video clips too.
- Write a 'true or false' quiz with fascinating facts about creatures and plants under the sea.
- Create fact cards about the creatures of the Great Barrier Reef in a Top Trumps style.
- Create a picture dictionary of plants and creatures of the ocean.
- Write a story about a diver's exploration of a coral reef.
- Use the web with an adult to find out about famous undersea explorers, such as Robert Ballard, Sylvia Earle, William Beebe and James Cameron. Record your information to share with the class.
- Make a tourist leaflet for people visiting Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

Your home learning project, whichever one you choose to complete, is due on the penultimate Monday of this term.