



Nansloe Academy & Nursery

Head of School: Mrs A Webb

Dear Parents

It's hard to believe but we have reached the final term of Year 4 already! Time has flown by but the children are doing fantastically well and have settled back in to routine quickly after the Easter break. Everyone is very excited about Flora Day this Saturday – The first question of the day is always "What time are we practising today?" Many thanks for all your efforts in preparing the children for this and getting their outfits ready. If anyone still needs Lilly of the Valley, remember to get your orders in at the florist soon!

Topic

Our topic for this term is Explorers. The topic overview accompanying this letter shows how the term will be divided up. The plan is to send a letter home the week before half term regarding the homework project when (hopefully) things will be a little less busy for you.

Reading

Our current shared text is a piece of non-fiction called 'Visitor's guide to Ancient Egypt'. This will begin to develop the children's understanding of this fascinating ancient civilisation. We will read this text until half term then choose a fiction text which reflects their interests developed over previous weeks. The priority is still to build the children's vocabularies and teach them strategies for identifying the meanings of words they are uncertain about rather than just glossing over them. Alongside this, in class we will continue to try to develop that love of reading for pleasure. If you could continue to encourage this at home and find opportunities for daily reading to help your child move up the Reading Karate, that would be fantastic. Thanks again for your support with reading.

Literacy

The children's writing will be closely linked to their topic learning as you will notice in the topic overview. Over the course of the term, they will learn to use a range of features and sentence types alongside more adventurous vocabulary in order to develop detail and description. I also plan to support all children to become confident with joined up writing by the end of the year. If you know your child finds this to be a challenge, any support at home would be very welcome!

Maths

Alongside our maths curriculum, times tables continue to be a high priority. The Year 4 times table check is only a month away and all children are expected to have rapid recall of all times tables up to 12X12. If you want to know how well your child is doing, please log in to Times Tables Rockstars and have a look on 'Soundcheck'. If you can see that your child is regularly scoring 25/25, then you can tell they will do well in the test. I would encourage these children to play in 'Studio' in order to develop their speed of recall. If they are not there yet, there is still plenty of time but daily practise is

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essential. 'Garage' and 'Soundcheck' are the best choices. TT Rockstars is a fantastic tool which does all the hard work for you – you just need to log in and spend a few minutes each day playing.

PE

The children will continue to have weekly PE sessions with the Plymouth Argyle coaches. Alongside this, we will also have weekly class sessions focusing on cricket and tennis and will carry out the daily mile as often as possible. Please try to ensure that PE kits are in school every day because, especially as it continues to get sunnier, we will try to get out and active as often as possible.

Thanks again for all your support in making this year as smooth and successful as it has been so far!

Mr Perry

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