

Year 3 and Year 4 Spring 1 Newsletter

Welcome back!

We hope you have enjoyed the Christmas holidays. Can we first take this opportunity to say thank you for all of our cards and gifts – we are truly grateful.

Where does our food come from and where does it go?

Our new term's topic has a world geography focus. We will be looking closely at the countries and capitals of Europe to find out where our food is grown and produced. Then, in science, we will be following the journey of our food as it goes through our digestive system. I'm sure the children will delight in coming home to share the new vocabulary they learn in these lessons!

Mentor text

The book which will be guiding us through this learning journey is Oliver Jeffers' 'The incredible book eating boy'. Hopefully the character in this book will teach us all about healthy foods.

Five 60

The Five 60 programme is a Derbyshire wide initiative which is focussed on improving the health and fitness of young people across our schools. It is aimed at educating young people on the benefits of eating Five portions fruit and veg per day and take part in 60 minutes of physical activity per day. The Five 60 sessions are a combination of classroom based learning alongside physical activity and sport allowing for students to learn whilst being active. We are delighted to say that the programme will be running in our school for this term

Uniform

The children were fantastically dressed last term and we would love to see more of the same in the new year. They are all taking pride in their uniform and appearance – "Looking Smart, Thinking Smart!" Could you please make sure all names are written inside the uniform, also take note if your child may have taken another person's uniform home by accident. As a staff, we always remind the children to look after their belongings and are often carrying a jumper behind one or two pupils on the way out of school!

PE

Please ensure children have their PE kit in school every day. Also, a gentle reminder that earrings need to be removed for PE lessons, therefore ensure children come to school without their earrings or teach your child to take out and put them back in after the PE lesson.

Music

All children will take part in a music lesson on Fridays. Year 3 will be taught the recorder with expert tuition from The Beckett staff. This is a fantastic opportunity and we ask that you support this by providing your child with a recorder from home labelled with the child's name clearly visible.

Year 4 will be taught the trumpet, ukulele and recorder on a termly basis and on a rotation system with music teachers from The Beckett High School. Again, hopefully Year 4 should have their recorders from last year but the trumpet and ukulele will be loaned out to children. Private music lessons will continue to be available, any questions or concerns regarding the private lessons please contact the school office. The children will be informed of their lesson time and day in due course.

Reading

The children have been given a new reading book and reading diary. Please try to hear your children read and make a note in their reading diary. We will endeavour to listen to your child read at least twice per week but the more practice they get reading aloud the better as reading is vital in all subjects across the curriculum.

Reading Diary

We will often use the blue reading diary to send messages home, please ensure you read the diary and sign it each week. If you would like to send us a message please use the diary as we will check it every day e.g. changes in how the child is getting home, appointments, changes to lunch times etc.

Homework is attached in the front of the diary – the children really enjoy celebrating their homework with their class and we appreciate the time it takes. The homework is produced in a project form which should take 3-4 weeks to complete – a few hours for research and planning, and then a further few hours for completing and finalising. There are also reading and maths challenges to do over the term that do not always need to be handed in but will be tested throughout the lessons.

Your child's targets for the term will also be attached to the front of the diary in the Outcomes booklet.

WOW Day

Look out for information in Reading Diary.

Dates for the Diary

8th January – School reopens

11th January – Whole school mass 1.45

17th January – Open door 9:00 – 10:00

26th January –Year 3 / 4 Good work

Liturgy

14thFebruary – KS2 Maths drop ins 8:50 – 9:30

15thFebruary – KS2 Maths drop ins 8:50 – 9:30

116th February Finish for half term

Parents Meetings

Parents Evening takes place each term and is an opportunity to look at the children's work and have a short meeting with the class teachers. However, parents are welcome to come into school at other times to discuss their child's progress. Appointments can be made via the school office. We hope your children are enjoying this year as much as we are. Any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your support.

Kind Regards

Mrs Pettifer, Miss Dickson and Miss Coxhead