

# Year 3 and Year 4 Summer 2 Newsletter

## Welcome back to our final half term!

Welcome back to our final term of this year. We hope you had plenty of rest during the break and are raring to go for our final push before the summer holidays! Our last topic, "Were the Romans really Rotten?", was a huge success and the children showed a great interest in learning about the Roman town of Pompeii and the fate of the Roman citizens that lived there. The children have enjoyed accumulating all their wonderful writing, history work and Roman research into our English Martyrs' newspaper (copies are available to view in school if you wish to have a peek). Science experimenting has also been in abundance during this topic, and all children have been engrossed in replicating their own Mount Vesuvius eruption using bicarbonate of soda and vinegar, and then using wax crayons to create the igneous volcanic rock. We were left with a very smelly and messy classroom but fun was had by all!

### Can you build hope for the planet?

Our new term's topic will be, again, focused around our love and friendship with Bunkpurugu in Ghana. We hope that the children learn the importance of looking after our planet after thinking about different habitats and how they can be put in danger. We hope to reduce these threats and think about what we can do to have a positive impact on Ghana, our community and our entire planet. We have so many exciting things planned and can't wait to see the thrill on the children's faces as we go on "A journey for hope" together. The book which will be guiding us through this learning journey is called "A journey for hope" which has been written and illustrated by some of our very talented year three children, alongside Mrs Pettifer. We are so proud of the work they have put into this project and are so excited to be using our very own text in this topic. We have had this book published and will be selling copies for everyone to read and enjoy, with all profits going towards our Bunkpurugu project – details coming soon!

### Uniform

The children were fantastically dressed last term and we would love to see this continue as we close the 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. If names are not in their uniform, we cannot guarantee that lost property will be returned to the correct person. 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. Last half term, there were a number of children who did not have their kit at all so unfortunately they missed out on lots of active minutes- crucial for our young children! It is also a National curriculum requirement, so all children must take part.

## 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 will continue with their current reading diary and are confident in changing their reading book when they have finished and understood their current book. 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

**4<sup>th</sup> June** – School reopens

**15<sup>th</sup> June** – Year 3/4 Good work Liturgy

**24<sup>th</sup> June** – Mrs Pettifer sets off for Ghana!

**25<sup>th</sup> June** – School closed for INSET

**26<sup>th</sup> June** – School reopens

**29<sup>th</sup> June** – FHC celebration mass 9.30am (date to be confirmed)

**29<sup>th</sup> June** – Mrs Pettifer returns from Ghana!

**5<sup>th</sup> July** – All day Sports Day

**9<sup>th</sup> July** – Reports/ class letters

**10<sup>th</sup>/ 11<sup>th</sup> July**- Class swaps 8.50-11.30am

**13<sup>th</sup> July**-House celebration picnic (West Park)

**20<sup>th</sup> July**- School closes for Summer break

**23<sup>rd</sup> July**- School closed for INSET

**Date TBC** – Summer Fayre

### **Parents Meetings and Reports**

With reports being sent out this half term, we would like to remind parents that there will be a drop-in session to discuss these reports. This may also be 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.

### **First Holy communion**

We are so proud that many of the children in our phase are about to embark on their First Holy Communion. We would like to invite parents to email any photos from their special days to school ([enquiries1@englishmartyrs.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries1@englishmartyrs.derbyshire.sch.uk)) if you would like them displayed during our mass at school celebrating this milestone.

*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, Miss Coxhead and Mr  
Connolly*