Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Year 4 – Brazil Class – Autumn 2018

Welcome back after the summer holidays. We would like to take this opportunity to outline the structure of Year 4 and what the children will be learning this year.

**Year 4 Team**
Miss Eassom - Class Teacher
Mrs.Dunkley - Learning Support Assistant
Mrs Green 1-1 Learning Support Assistant
Mrs.Gore - Covering class on Wednesday (pm)

**Themed Work**
Autumn 1: British Art (Art/History)
Autumn 2: The Tudors (History)
Spring 1: Mighty mountains (Geography)
Spring 2: Vikings (History)
Summer 1: The great bread bake off (DT)
Summer 2: South America (Geography)

**Helping your child**

**Reading**
Children should bring their book and reading journal into school every day. It is important that their book and reading journal are in school each day so that we can record when we have heard them read.

At Fairfield, children are heard reading in small guided groups at least twice a week. Children will also be heard reading, at times, on a 1 to 1 basis by additional support adults with their individual home reading book. Once your child has finished their book, they will be asked to follow up the reading of their individual book with an activity. Please support your child in completing these when set.

We recognise that children read at different speeds and because of this we have a system in place whereby the children can change their individual reading books as often as they like through placing their reading book and diary in the change tray. When children do this, Mrs.Dunkley will endeavour to change their reading book on that day.

Even if your child decodes words well and reads fluently, it is still important that they read as often as possible in order to develop their comprehension skills and widen their knowledge of sentence structure and vocabulary, which will in turn help them to develop their writing skills. You can discuss facts, opinions, author's purpose, direct questions and settings with your child on a daily basis.
We are continuing with Reading Olympics at Fairfield this year. Children will have a reading journal which needs to be signed and dated each time your child reads with you at home. We expect children to read at home with an adult three times a week. This is linked to in-school rewards and displays. Please make sure you keep reading regularly and signing the book so that your child may join in with the rewards and treats.

**Homework**

All primary schools are expected to set homework for pupils. We believe that these should be manageable tasks that reinforce and extend the learning in school, and which allow parents and children to work together in an enjoyable and positive way. Pupils are expected to complete homework and hand it in on time. If there are particular difficulties, please don’t hesitate to catch one of the Year 4 Team and let them know. Children who are unable to complete their homework on time will complete it in school. Every week the children complete their homework on time they will earn 5 minutes of reward time. At the end of the term the children will add up their home-work minutes and use their time to choose a fun activity. The Homework books will be given out on a Friday and are due back in the following Wednesday. There will also be a spelling test every Friday morning.

**Trips**

As well as the Pantomime trip in December, the year 3 and 4 children will also be attending a trip to Bosworth Battlefield to assist with their learning of ‘The Tudors’. Not only that, year 4 also has the amazing opportunity to go to Kingswood on a residential in the summer term. More information will be given about this closer to the time. We hope everyone will come along!

**Clubs open to Year 4**

There will be a variety of clubs open to Year 4 this year, please keep an eye out for letters which will state which clubs are open to which year groups and when they will be taking place.

**E-Safety**

Many families now have computers at home and allow children to access the Internet to help with learning activities. Whilst the Internet is a fantastic resource and children can benefit greatly, please ensure that they are properly supervised or that your computer is adequately protected with filters to prevent children from accessing inappropriate material. At school we take this very seriously. Children will be taught about staying safe on-line and to be aware that not all websites are reliable sources. For further advice and guidance on this, please refer to CEOP www.ceop.police.uk/ (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre). There is an E-Safety meeting for parents at school on February 25th 2019 providing advice and support. More information will follow for this date.

**Equipment**

Please ensure that your child wears the correct school uniform and that all items are named clearly (See school uniform policy available in the Office). We have a lost property box in our hall. If your child loses an item please check in that box first of all.
The school provides all equipment that the children require in their lessons so it is not necessary for children to bring in their own stationery. Please remember to send your children in with a named water bottle every day.

**P.E**

Please follow the School uniform policy and ensure all P.E. kit is named. It would be helpful if you could provide socks for girls who wear tights to school. Kit should be kept in a drawstring bag on cloakroom pegs. Please do not have large rucksacks for kit as they will not fit on the pegs. For Health and Safety reasons, earrings should not be worn. It would be helpful for pupils not to wear earrings on the P.E days unless they are capable of removing earrings prior to the start of a lesson. Please ensure that your child has both an indoor and an outdoor kit with them, including plimsolls. In Year 4, we currently do P.E on a Wednesday afternoon and a Friday afternoon.

**Important dates for your diary**

Please keep an eye out for letters in case any of these dates change.

Thursday 4th October - Harvest assembly
Tuesday 9th and Thursday 11th October - Parents evenings
Thursday 11th October - School Individual Photos

Week commencing 15th October - Half term

Year 3 and 4 trip to Bosworth Battlefield - Date TBC

Wednesday 5th December - First swimming session
Friday 7th December - Decorations morning
Wednesday 19th December - School Disco
Thursday 20th December - De-Montfort Hall Christmas Pantomime

Friday 21st December - Last day of Autumn term/ Christmas jumper and toy day

Tuesday 8th January - First day of Spring term

**Home/School Agreement, Data Information and Parental Consent form**

There will be a home school agreement, data information and parental consent form that we would like all parents/carers to complete and return back to school at your earliest convenience. Please remember to notify the office of any changes to your personal contact details as and when these arise.

We hope this has been helpful. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Miss.Eassom, Mrs.Dunkley, Mrs.Green