



Nanpean C P School
St Georges Road Nanpean
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Wednesday 6th September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back Melbur class – Year 4

We hope you all had an enjoyable summer break and are looking forward to another busy school year. We are all looking forward to the year ahead and have lots of exciting things planned.

Melbur Team:

We would like to remind you that for the Autumn Term, Miss Morrison will be teaching the children on Mondays and Tuesdays and Mrs Cooper will be teaching on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Mrs Miskowicz is our class HLTA and she will be teaching the class on Wednesday afternoons.

Curriculum:

Our first Inspire Unit, which will last for the first half term, is '**Dragons- Fact or Fiction?**' which explores the history of dragons through different cultures and stories. In our geography lessons we will be studying the geography of the UK, including the location of counties and large cities. Many foundation subject areas including music, art and design and computing are covered in this unit.

After half term we will be moving on to our second unit '**Batteries Included**'. Science is the lead subject in this Unit and involves pupils in exploring various ways in which electricity is used. Pupils will be encouraged to move from thinking about applications to the effects of electricity and the idea that it is useful because it can be used to produce heat, light, sound and movement some of these effects will then be explored in later lessons in the Unit.

We will be teaching English and Maths every day and in most cases our English lessons will be linked to our Inspire units. In Maths we are going to be learning Numbers and Counting, Calculation Strategies, Shape, Space and Measure and Data Handling. The class will also have a weekly mental maths session where we will in part focus on securing a strong grasp of the times tables through our Times Table Challenge.

We have specialist teachers who will take the children for certain sessions:

- Ms Trula – Spanish (Monday)
- Mr Bacon (PE apprentice) - PE (Tuesday & Friday)

Reading Books:

Your child will be given opportunities to read individually during the week and will read to a member of staff during guided reading. Children will be responsible for changing and selecting their individual books when necessary. The children are also encouraged to take home a library book.

It is expected that the children will read at home **at least 5 times per week**. Each reading 'session' should be for at least 10 minutes and will require an adult signature in the reading record for verification. Reading in Key Stage 2 is obviously of vital importance for the children's progress and we appreciate your cooperation with this.

Reading records will be checked on a **Monday**. Please make sure that your child has their record in school on this day because this is the only day that they will be checked for reading points towards the new reading reward scheme (see separate letter tomorrow).

Homework:

As the children progress through KS2 the amount of homework will slowly start to increase. The children will receive their homework on a **Tuesday** and it is expected that the homework will be completed and handed in by the following **Monday** morning.

Homework this term will consist of:

- Times tables
- Spellings and Handwriting
- Occasional extra tasks linked to our curriculum unit

Although homework tasks will be sent home to aid the learning of spellings and times tables, it is important to remember that **the homework task is to learn the spellings and times tables** as opposed to completing the accompanying tasks. Although the spellings may seem tricky, these are the government expected spellings for children in Years 3 & 4. Where appropriate, children will also be given other spellings to practise.

PE:

PE is on Tuesdays and Fridays, although we ask that P.E kit is present in school each day.

We would like to remind you that PE kit consists of:

- Black shorts or leggings
- School PE top or plain white round necked T-shirt (no large print or design please)
- Trainers or plimsolls
- Socks
- Tracksuits (for outside PE during colder weather)
- No earrings or jewellery to be worn for PE/swimming.

Children will have swimming lessons in the Summer Term. Further details of this will be sent home nearer the time.

Open Door Policy:

We welcome your feedback on any aspect of your child's time in Year 4, please pop in and see us after school to discuss any questions, queries or problems that you may have. If you have any pressing issues that need to be addressed a note would be much appreciated as the morning is a very busy time. There will be opportunities during the year when we would very much welcome your support and feedback.

We look forward to working closely with you and your children this term.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Cooper, Miss Morrison and Mrs Miskowicz
Melbur team

