**September 2016 Newsletter**

Dear children and parents/ carers,

Mrs Winward and I are delighted to welcome you to Base 4. We hope you had a lovely summer break and are ready for a very exciting and hard-working year ahead. We have some lovely topics planned that cover all areas of the curriculum and provide an exciting and immersive learning journey.

**Being in Base 4**

We work very hard in Base 4 to ensure that you get the most out of your time in school. It is also really important that you play your part in making the most out of your time in Base 4 too. You can do this by:

* Having a positive attitude and being self-motivated to do your very best.
* Being organised (having everything you need in school on the right day eg PE kit)
* Be punctual - being in school between 8.45 and 8.55am ready to start the day promptly.
* Attending school as much as possible (most of you have excellent attendance - keep it up!)
* Being focussed in class on your own learning and letting others learn too
* Listening to and acting on the advice the teachers give you to help you improve your work
* Doing MORE than the minimum needed and challenging yourself
* Not giving up when the learning seems tricky...it is not that you 'can't do it'...you 'can't do it **YET!**' It is about building your resilience and being able to persevere and we're here to help you with new strategies and support when things seem really tricky.
* Doing your homework to the best of your ability and putting in extra time to over-learn important things like maths facts, spelling rules and grammar terms.
* Reading daily and for longer. Reading a wide range of literature - a balanced diet of fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Try to speed up your reading pace.

**Teaching and Learning**

We have a whole school theme each term and, to start the school year off, our theme is ‘Into the forest’.

We will be using a variety of quality texts to enrich this topic beginning with **Journey to the River Sea** by **Eva Ibbotson**. This is a fantastic read full of excellent descriptions and a variety of sentence structures that will be amazing for our SPaG work. This book is a real page turner and I hope that you will enjoy it as much as I have. It may be useful to buy or loan, from the library, your own copy to enable you to follow the story and read along in class.

Many of the curriculum subjects has been woven together to make our learning more meaningful this term. The holistic Autumn term overview gives a flavour of the work we will be covering. We will try to learn outside of the classroom as much as possible, so please do bring a coat to school, even if the morning is bright and sunny as you leave home. We will go outside whatever the weather.

Here is your **weekly timetable** for this term:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| **Session 1** | Literacyreading/ writing / SPAG | Literacyreading/ writing / SPAG | Literacyreading/ writing / SPAG | Literacyreading/ writing / SPAG | Literacyreading/ writing / SPAGFrenchMrs Sharpe |
| **Morning break** |
| **Session 2** | Numeracy | Numeracy | Numeracy | Numeracy | Numeracy |
| **Lunch - 1 hr** |
| **15 mins assemblies** | Assembly PHSE | AssemblyHouse/Y6 led | AssemblySinging | AssemblyIn the news | *Learning Journey* |
| **Session 3** | PE | *Learning Journey* | PE | Brass Tuition (up to 24/11) |
| **Session 4** | *Learning Journey* | *Learning Journey*  | Y6 Stars of the week Assembly |

Note: *Learning Journey time will be used to cover the other subjects - Science, geography, history, computing, art, D&T and music.*

**PE:** You MUST be prepared for PE with a full kit - red tee-shirt, black shorts and trainers. A sweatshirt/joggers in grey/black/ navy for the colder sessions is recommended.

**Regular homework:**

* **Maths** - for Mondays - Mymaths **and/or** other maths homework

Note: you can log ontoMymaths at any time to consolidate your learning and work through their ***Booster Packs***, not just as directed homework.

* **Spellings** - Spelling test on Fridays. You will also be required to work through most of the 100 Y5/6 words and revise the year 3/4 list of words (if you are in Year 5), or learn ALL of the Year 3/4 words (if you are in Year 4). Most of you are well on your way with this but these are tricky words so will need extra time to learn.
* **Additional homework** will come in many guises; it could be key facts to learn, revision/consolidation of class learning, research, preparation for a lesson, spelling investigations, a short writing task, problem solving or a making task. It will be given out weekly (if a shorter task) with a few days to complete or fortnightly for a longer task. All homework should be of a very good quality. *'If something is worth doing, it is worth doing well!'*
* **Daily reading** for at least 20 minutes.

Once we have completed the baseline assessments for the start of this term, regular homework will begin to be sent home. Children should already be reading daily and can log into Mymaths to get started themselves.

**Upcoming events for the class**

This term Y4/5 will have brass tuition every Thursday until 24th November.

Guitar and Piano lessons will start on the 20th September for those who pay for these lessons.

Bikeability for Year 4 will be on Wednesday 21st September in the afternoon.

Bikeability for Year 5 will be on Wednesday 21st September in the morning and also on Friday 23nd September in the afternoon.

This year our school Book Fair will be on the 27th September running until the 3rd October. Finally, on the 26th October, the school photographer will be in school for individual portraits in the morning and classes and groups in the afternoon.

Mrs Winward and I are liaising with Mrs Cador to arrange our educational visit for this term.

**Parent Partnership**

As you know, strong parental partnership is key to your child’s education and success here at Wrenbury Primary School. This year we will build a stable and strong base for the children to enable them to build for the future ahead. If you ever have any worries or questions we are available at ‘meet and greet’ in the mornings and evenings – on the back playground by the school house – or feel free to contact the office to arrange a time that is convenient for the both of us.

Miss Phillips and I would love to welcome you to meet with us to discuss the year ahead and to look around the classroom on **Tuesday 20th September at 3.45pm**. We hope to see as many of you as possible then but if this time is not convenient and you have any questions please don’t hesitate to contact me.

We hope you have a fantastic time in Base 4 and we are very much looking forward to sharing our learning experiences with you.

Kind Regards,

Mr Sargeant and Mrs Winward