ENGAINES PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Mrs J Irwin

Spring Term 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the Christmas break, we trust you all had a good holiday. This is a relatively short term of six weeks, then the half term break, followed by six weeks, which takes us up to the Easter holiday, which begins on Monday April 8th.

Our main topic this term is history based. It will be all about the Stone Age. This will include finding out about how people lived and the main events and facts about this period. Many subjects will be incorporated into these areas.

Alongside this, we will be looking at light and sound in science, special books in RE and emotional well-being in PSHE. We would like children to bring in a special book to share with the class at the end of this week. It could be a storybook, a photo album, a family recipe book, a religious book or other special book. This book will then be returned to you. Music will focus on instrumental tuition. Year 4 will have 10 weeks of recorder tuition provided by Essex Music services and year 3 will be focusing on beginning to play the glockenspiel.

In Literacy, we will be looking at all types of writing. To start with, we will be looking at narrative writing and then move onto writing reports. Basic skills, including handwriting, spelling and sentence work continue to be taught. Reading is very important and we will encourage the children to read as often as possible. We would like children to read for pleasure and choose a range of authors to engage with. Reading incentives continue this term. AR reader also continues and you are able to track your child’s progress through emails you should be receiving. We will be focusing a lot on comprehension skills and looking at ways to improve these skills. Talking about books and questioning your child about what they are reading really helps with these skills.

In Numeracy, we shall continue to work on the four basic operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, and the other areas of maths such as shape, measure and statistics. We continue to expect the children to learn their times tables and basic number facts. Those children who are confident and know their tables at speed are doing particularly well with the arithmetic work, which is being set. A government test will be introduced next year to gage the speed in which children can recall facts. To support children with this, we will begin to use Times Tables Rock Star. This is an app, which can be used in school and at home. This will be introduced to the children in January and a parent meeting is being held on the 10th January at 6pm to introduce this to you.

Homework including reading continues to be set based on class work. The new grid is attached to this letter. It covers a range of subjects and activities along the theme of the Stone Age. As time is quite short, we would encourage children to complete one activity to a good standard. Alongside this, we would like children to make a costume for a workshop which is happening on 28th February (after half term). A letter is attached to this one with further details.

As before, children will take part in sessions of PE each week. Please ensure that a PE kit is kept in school every day. Trainers are advised for outdoor PE sessions and plimsolls for indoor PE sessions. It is advisable to provide a warm tracksuit of any colour at this time of year. Please make sure all items are named. Earrings must not be worn for PE and this is in line with the Essex policy.

MW – Indoor –Wednesday, Outdoor-Thursday

JW- Indoor –Wednesday, Outdoor-Thursday

JF - Indoor – Monday, Outdoor-Friday

If you require any additional information about this terms work, please contact the school office or your child’s teacher. We look forward to a very busy term.

Yours sincerely,

Miss. M. Warnes

Lower Key Stage 2 phase leader