



Dear children, parents and carers,

We hope that you have had the best Summer and have enjoyed spending time with your families. We feel like we've got to know you so much already, and are very much looking forward to getting to know you all more!

Our value for this term is **Wisdom and Hope** and **Dignity and Community** in term 2.

Our English lessons will have a focus on simple grammatical features and handwriting. Our first core text will be *'Arthur and the Golden Rope'* and we will be creating newspapers, diaries and comics, amongst other forms.

In maths, we'll be focusing on our number skills: place value, addition and subtraction and multiplication and division. We'll be working on methods we use, so lots of practice with these at home would be excellent! There will also be a focus on times tables: recapping 2s, 5s, 10s, 3s and 4s, and then onto 6s and 8s.

History will take us to the time of the Romans, where we will explore what life was like, and how they impacted our locality.

In science, we are grouping and classifying living things, as well as looking at states of matter: gases, liquids, solids.

Our computing topics are about systems and networks and then creating media: podcasts.

Music in term 1 will be all about musical structures: looking at creating our own music, as well as listening and responding to a range of genres. The second half term will see us start to learn the ukuleles – we also carry this on into Spring 1, so they could make a good Christmas present!

For Autumn term, we will be focusing on art, and doing some Design and Technology after Christmas. This will be a minimalism project; using the mediums of drawing, painting and sculpture.

Finally, we will be presenting ourselves and our families in French.

Home Learning – Homework this year will focus on reading and maths.

Reading – Reading records are expected in and updated every day with an indication of what has been read and how much (page numbers noted), along with a small comment either from an adult or from the child themselves regarding what they have read. While we allow the children to read independently and mark this in their reading record, it is still beneficial for children to continue to read aloud to an adult to develop fluency, flow and expression in them becoming story tellers.

Maths – Children need to spend between 5-10 minutes x5 times a week (or any other way of making up 25-50 minutes) on Doodle maths. The aim is for the children to be in the green zone on the little Doodle petrol gauge on the screen. Generally, I will not set assignments as Doodle is a bespoke learning platform which learns at your child's speed and is tailored to their needs based on the baseline assessments carried out in class. I will be printing the children's usernames and passwords as a reminder next week, and popping them into reading records so that you have them at home. We would encourage the children to Doodle independently if at all possible.

Times tables – Children are encouraged to use TTRS for practicing their times tables every day where possible for 5 minutes. Garage is useful to test children on tables the algorithm has deemed need practice. Log in details will remain the same, but please let me know if you need any reminders.

General Reminders.

P.E will be on both a Monday and a Thursday (1 hour per session). This means that the children will come to school in their P.E kits on both of those days.

Forest School sessions: Tuesday September 17th, Wednesday October 9th. First half term only so far.

Swimming: Sept - 19th, 26th. Oct – 3rd, 10th, 17th. Nov – 14th, 21st. Dec – 5th.

Trips : Viney Hill – 28th Nov – 29th Nov

Pantomime – 12th Dec

Affordability.

Viney Hill – The children will be taken on an overnight stay to Viney Hill this year (dates above), and the amount per child will be £110 for the trip.

Pantomime – As always, the children will be taken to the pantomime in December, and we expect the cost of this to be in the region of £20 per child – this is for the show, coach transport and ice cream/sorbet.

Romans – I may look to arrange a trip to reinforce learning around our Roman topic – this could be either a trip out of school or an external company coming in to school. If this goes ahead, I would expect the cost to be in the region of £10-£15 per child.

Thanks so much,
Miss Usher, Mrs Dyminski and the Class 4 team.