

Dear Parents / carers,

Welcome back and I hope you all had a lovely summer break. I'm very much looking forward to teaching Phoenix Class this year and we have a busy year ahead and lots of learning planned. Here are a few things I thought you may find helpful to know;

Topics

This year planning has changed to include 6 shorter topics with a focus on either history or geography, these topics will be;

- From Stone to Iron (History)
- Land Use Detectives (Geography)
- Europe Explorers (Geography)
- Building Britain, the Roman Way (History)
- Local History Study (History)
- Planet Power (Geography)

More details about each will be sent at the beginning of each term, including details of other subjects.

For this term we have a trip planned on 16th September to the Earth Trust for a Stone, Bronze and Iron Age workshop. More details will be sent shortly. We have an information meeting at 5pm on 15th September in Pegasus class which you are invited to attend to find out more about the KS2 curriculum and ask questions. If you cannot attend, the slides will be available.

Outdoor Explorers

This term each year group will have one whole afternoon session of Outdoor Explorers which will take place at Adventure Plus in Clanfield on Wednesday 23rd September for Y4 and Wednesday 30th September for Y3. Children will need outdoor clothing and shoes including long sleeves and trousers and a waterproof. They will also need to return the consent form.

Home Learning tasks

The children will shortly receive a Home Learning book. Each term a letter will be attached with ideas of topic related home learning projects that could be done at home to extend their classroom learning. At the end of each term there will be a sharing afternoon and an opportunity for the children to share their projects with other members of the class. The children have really enjoyed this in the past and it will hopefully work well and be enjoyed again this year.

Reading

Please continue to encourage the children to read daily and record it in their reading diaries. If they are reading independently, please talk to them about what they have read. Comprehension is really important in Key Stage 2, as is continuing to read for pleasure and broadening vocabulary.

Spellings

Children's spelling will be assessed regularly through their writing. Support in learning spellings at home is really beneficial and lists will be provided at the start of each term so you are able to help your child revise the spellings they have covered in school.

Times Tables

A rapid recall of times tables is really important this year. Please help your child to learn them off by heart - all children are now expected to know their times tables (up to 12x12) by the end of Year 4, out of order and mixed up; answering each question accurately within 5 seconds. Children will be provided with a Times Tables Rockstars login, if they do not have one already, to help with this. To encourage the children, there will also be a class times table challenge which will be explained in class as well as 'Mastering Number' in class teaching sessions to develop children's recall.

Water bottles & lunches

Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school every day. Children will have access to these during the school day including break and lunchtimes. Please can you also make sure your child knows what they are having for lunch, they will be asked for this information when the register is taken.

PE

Please ensure children have their PE kits, including outdoor trainers, in school every day so they are able to participate in PE lessons and lunch clubs.

Thursday afternoons

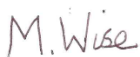
On a Thursday afternoon Miss Wright will be teaching the children PSHE and Ms Lawton will be teaching PE during this time.

Flutes and Toots

We aim to have all children experience playing an instrument once during their time in Phoenix class. This will take place this year and we are just waiting for confirmation of our time slot and then we will let you know when this will take place. Children are encouraged to take home and practice their instrument at home after the first few weeks. This is taught by a County Music professional and kindly part funded by FOSPS. Further details to follow.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require any support. I can be contacted via email at; phoenixhomework@stpeters.oxon.sch.uk. For any urgent messages, please contact the school office and these will be passed on during the school day. Alternatively, please do come and see me on the playground at the end of the school day I'm very happy to talk and look forward to getting to know you more.

Thank you,



Mike Wise
Class teacher