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12.9.16

Dear Year Four Parents,

Welcome back! We hope that you have had a lovely Summer and feel well rested and ready for the new school year. We are very much looking forward to working with your children and helping them to grow and develop throughout the year.

Curriculum:

Topic – The Romans

Literacy- An Author Study; Recounts; Stories with Historical Settings; Persuasive Writing

Numeracy- Addition and subtraction, measures, money, fractions, 2D and 3D shape, multiplication and division, statistics, direction and movement.

RE – Belonging; Celebrations

Science- Plants; Rocks and Soils

PE – Commando Jo; Ball Skills; Gymnastics

Home School Journal:

Children in Year 4 now have a Home School Journal that is to be taken home daily, and returned the next day. This will be used as a reading record for you to sign when your child has read at home. There is also a space for you to write any comments or questions you may have for us, or for staff to communicate with you about your child. The journal also contains a timetable for the Autumn Term, detailing what lessons will be taught daily.

Homework:

Children in Year 4 will receive two pieces of homework each week, one maths and one English. Homework will be sent home in homework books on Thursday each week, to be given back in on the following Tuesday. It will also be written in their home school diaries. Children are also expected to read for at least 20 minutes daily, as part of their homework. Please ensure that you sign your child's home school diary at home each time they read, either to an adult or independently.

Children will have spellings set for them to learn each Friday and will be tested on them the following Friday.

Playtime Fruit and Snacks:

Fruit at playtime is not provided for children in Key Stage Two, however if you wish to provide playtime snacks for your children, please provide them with a piece of fruit. Children may also bring in a labelled water bottle each day, which can be kept in the classroom. Please can all children make sure that they take their water bottle home at the end of the day.

We do ask that children **do not** bring nuts into school for break or lunchtime as we have a number of children who have nut allergies and as such, we are a nut free school.

Behaviour Expectations

Howes is a friendly and caring community and we are keen for our children to take on these and other values. Our house point system is proving effective at encouraging children to follow our golden rules and values. We would still very much like parents and carers to help us in reinforcing these rules and values with your children.

Please can children be reminded that they should not bring toys into school, unless they have been given permission to do so.

PE Kits and Uniform:

This term, Year 4 pupils will have PE on Monday morning and Wednesday afternoons. Please ensure that your child has a named PE kit which should consist of a plain white T-shirt, black shorts and pumps; they can bring plain black/navy jogging trousers and jumper for outdoor lessons only. PE kits should be brought into school in a named, drawstring bag please. If for any reason your child is unable to take part in PE lessons, we require a note of explanation. Please can you remind your children that earrings should be removed before PE lessons, thank you.

Please also ensure that your child attends school wearing the correct school uniform. For information about this please visit: <http://howesprimary.co.uk/Uniform/>

Children with long hair should also come to school with their hair tied back please.

Commando Joe

Children in Year 4 will have their Commando Joe sessions each Monday. They will usually be outside for this, so they will need to ensure that they have appropriate outdoor clothes, such as jogging bottoms, a tracksuit top and trainers.

Indoor/Outdoor Shoes:

At Howes we ask the children to wear a pair of outdoor shoes to and from school and whilst outside at playtime/lunchtime as this enables them to make the most of the school grounds during the wetter weather. Once they arrive at school we ask the children to change into indoor shoes. Please could we ask you to encourage your child to bring a pair of named indoor shoes to keep at school, such as slippers, school shoes or pumps. Thank you.

Timings of the day:

The start of a Howes school day in Year 4 begins with a Maths lesson starting straight after the register is taken. It is therefore very important that all pupils arrive promptly in order to start the school day at 8.55am. So that children are ready to come into school at this time, we would ask that all children are present on the playground at least 5 minutes before the school bell sounds.

The end of the school day for pupils in Key Stage 2 is at 3.20pm. Please note that this is 5 minutes later than Key Stage 1 pupils.

Parent Helpers:

At Howes we recognise the valuable contribution that all members of our community make to our school. We are always happy to welcome helpers into the classroom, so if you would like to volunteer to help in any way please do come and speak to Mrs Bolland. Here are some of the ways you may like to offer support:

- By joining the Friends of Howes team
- By hearing children read
- By supporting us on school trips
- By helping to organise Accelerated Reader or other resources

Celebration Assemblies

Our Friday Celebration Assemblies will be continuing this term at 9.00am. Two children from each class will be nominated to receive an award for an aspect of outstanding work, achievement or behaviour. Parents will be invited to come into school for the assembly when their child is awarded their certificate. You will receive a letter on a Wednesday to inform you that your child has been nominated.

Absences and Medical Needs:

We would like to remind you that if your child is going to be absent please telephone the school office at the number above as soon as possible. Any medication that your child requires during the day should be given to the Office, for a First Aider, in the original container and a medical administration consent form needs to be completed. Inhalers must be labelled and be handed in to your child's class teacher to be stored safely in the classroom.

Important Events for Year Four pupils:

Week Beginning 12 th September	School Clubs to Start This Week
13 th September	Class Information Sessions
27 th September	Coffee Afternoon (2pm-3pm)
20 th October	Parents' Evening
Week Beginning 24 th October	Half Term
31 st October	Back to School
2 nd November	Year 4 Trip to The Lunt Roman Fort
3 rd November	Individual Photographs
11 th November	Year 4 Class Assembly
18 th November	Coffee Afternoon (2.30pm-3.15pm)
22 nd November	Staff Surgery
25 th November	Friends of Howes Disco
9 th December	Friends of Howes Christmas Fayre
12 th December	Visit to Christ Church
13 th December	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner
16 th December	End of Term
3 rd January	Start of Term

Yours sincerely

Miss Gandy and Mr Page

