



Fairisle Junior School

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Chair of Governors: Mrs Nikki Webb

Welcome Back Year 4

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back Year 4! We hope you have all had an excellent Easter break and the children are refreshed and ready to start the summer term. We are so pleased to see everyone back in school again and we have loved hearing what a fantastic break everyone has had.

We have an exciting new topic this term: 'Tomb Raiders!' This topic will allow us to take a step back in to Ancient Egypt to explore the achievements of early civilisations. They will explore Tutankhamun, daily life and the hierarchical structure of this civilisation. Additionally, the children will be learning about Canopic Jars, which were a key aspect of the mummification process, and creating their own out of clay in Art.

In English, this half-term, we will be linking our first piece of writing to the book, 'Marcy and the Riddle of the Sphinx' by Joe Todd-Stanton. After first unpicking and exploring the text, the children will continue to practise their grammatical skills they have already learnt so far before they apply their historical knowledge and write a story based on this text. Later in the term, we will begin our final novel of Year 4: 'The Last Bear' by Hannah Gold. This fantastic book tells the story of a young girl who finds an unlikely friend in a wild bear. We know that the children are going to enjoy immersing themselves in this text.

If you get the opportunity, please ask your children about the books they read at school and what they are enjoying about them. As a school, we strongly believe in the power of reading and so, we continue to encourage all children to read daily with you. This provides the opportunity for them to develop fluency and understanding when reading. We ask that you record the following information into the children's planners:

- The title of the book they are reading.
- The page numbers read
- Your signature.

By supporting their reading, the children can continue to collect their stars in their planners to receive a unique reading badge. Thank you in advance for your support with this.



We will be continuing to test the children's spelling each week on a Monday and the words that they are tested on are the spelling rules we have been learning about that week. The children receive their new spelling words each Monday for the next coming week. We ask that each week that you support your child to practice these at home. The children have been enjoying using Spelling Shed online to supplement their spellings on the Chromebooks in school. It is a fun and interactive way to practice their spellings. Their logins can be found in the back of their planners.

In Mathematics, we will begin by finishing our learning on decimals and as the term progresses, the children will be learning about money, time and statistics. To support their Mathematical understanding, it is imperative that your child learns to improve the recall of their times tables, to 12 x 12, and to help them in this, each child will be encouraged to play Time Tables Rockstars and take part in the class tournaments at home to improve their recall speed. We are just two months away from the Multiplication Tables Check, which all Year 4 children nationally must complete in June. Please encourage your child to play regularly so they feel as prepared as they possibly can for this assessment.

P.E. will still take place on Wednesdays this term. Please could you ensure that your child has a full P.E. kit including clothes, with no logos, that are suitable for the unpredictable British weather. Children must have a change of footwear in school too. As it is part of the National Curriculum, it is crucial for your child to have the correct uniform for P.E, if they do not they will not be allowed to participate in the lesson and will remain in class with their teachers. There have been an increasing number of children in Year 4 missing these vital lessons due to not having the correct P.E. kit in school. Not only is P.E. a compulsory subject, but it is imperative that the children participate in P.E. for its physical and mental health benefits too. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

We are really looking forward to what we think will be a fantastic half term for the children. We would like to thank you in advance for your support and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. You can do this by writing a note in your child's planner or telephoning the school and they will make contact with you.

Kind regards,

Zoe O'Shea

Stacey Woods

Millie Tanner

Hannah Hixon

Rebecca Wheeler