



LORD DERAMORE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
Year 3 and 4 Spring Newsletter
www.lordderamores.com

A very Happy New Year to all of you.

We were very pleased with the hard work of the children in Years 3 and 4 last term and wish to thank all of you for helping to keep the children organised with their belongings, reading regularly and completing homework on time. These things make such a difference to the children feeling happy and settled in school, and show we are all working together to help all our children be 'the best that they can be'.

As always, at the beginning of each term we like to remind you of routines and keep you informed of any changes.

Homework

Thank you again for your support in ensuring homework is completed and handed in on time. Children make the most progress at school when they feel the school and their families are working together. All homework will be relevant to work in school and the children will receive feedback.

Monday: All children will receive a list of spellings to practise and learn at home ready for a test on Friday.

Wednesday: Maths homework to be handed in by Friday (Y4) or Monday (Y3).

Friday: General homework, often topic or science related, to be handed in on Monday.

All children have a homework book in which instructions will be sent. We encourage the children to show you what they have to do and are happy for parents to help as you feel appropriate.

Reading

We have recently ordered many new books especially for Year 3 and 4. We spent a long time choosing books we think the children will enjoy and can't wait for them to arrive! Our aim is to encourage a love of books and reading for enjoyment and information. Therefore, children read most days at school and we would encourage all parents to read with their child for a short time each evening. Even fluent readers benefit from reading aloud to an adult.

All children have a Reading Record / Planner and we would be grateful if you could date whenever your child reads with you and note which page they get to. Please remember that it is more important that a child understands and enjoys a book rather than ensuring they get to the end of the story in one sitting – little and often can be more successful with some children.

Children also have access to library books. This term, Year 3 will visit the library on Wednesday and Year 4 on Tuesday. The children may also visit the library independently during a particular lunchtime – Monday for Year 3 and Wednesday for Year 4.



Planners

The aim of the planners is for children to reflect on their learning, to aid organisation and to facilitate communication between school and home.

Please use the planner for notes about doctor's appointments etc., questions about homework, positive comments about your child's progress and to inform us of any successes your child has had out of school eg. Music awards, football medals, learning a new skill. (You may wish to use a letter to inform us of more private issues.)

Curriculum

This term, the Year 3/4 curriculum centres on 'Victorians'. In history, we will be studying the main people and events of the Victorian era as well as thinking about how life was for Victorian children. In art, we will be using the work of William Morris and Ford Maddox Brown as a stimulus for our own work. In ICT we aim to combine pictures, text and music using presentation software and our science topic is forces. Year 4 will continue to learn the violin and Year 3 will continue the recorder.

Year 3 will also be involved in a film project linked to our literacy work about Robin Hood.

We are also looking forward to an Arts Week beginning Monday 16th January, an E-Safety week in February and a maths week in March.



PE

Year 3 PE is on a Tuesday with Mr. Iddon.

Year 4 PE is on a Tuesday with Mr Iddon and on a Thursday with Mr Longmore.

PE may be indoors or outdoors and we expect children to have their full kit as detailed in the planner. We recommend that PE kit is brought to school on a Monday and then left in school all week, so it cannot be forgotten.

Year 3 swimming commences on Monday 9th January until Monday 6th February. There is no swimming after half term although it will recommence after the Easter holidays – please see letter.

Assemblies

Year 3 class assembly is on Thursday 23rd February, 2012.

Year 4 class assembly is on Thursday 22nd March, 2012.

We hope you will be able to join us.



Punctuality

The vast majority of children arrive at school on time – thank you. There are just a few who are often late. When children are regularly late to school, it can make them feel unhappy and unsettled and it can be difficult for them to feel ready to learn. Please help your child by ensuring they arrive in good time to say hello to their friends and come into school together. (Of course we do understand that there are occasional morning emergencies and traffic issues!)

If you wish to see us about any aspect of your child's life in school, please pop in at the end of the school day, or make an appointment via the planner. There will be formal parent evenings at the end of March.

Best wishes,

The Year 3 / 4 team

Suzie McKenna Charlotte Sweeting Mark Longmore Ann Bradley