



Jessie Younghusband School

Year 4 – Curriculum Letter – Autumn Term

Welcome to Year 4 and our autumn term curriculum letter. Here you will find useful information relating to this term's topics and special events, along with helpful information for you to assist your child in their first term in Year 4.

This is my first term at Jessie Younghusband and already I am impressed with the children's attitude to their learning. I am very much looking forward to being their class teacher this year. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Mrs Nash, Mrs Broughton and Mrs Barnett who are our class teaching assistants.

Important information:

Clothing

- Please can P.E. kit be in school **all week** from Monday morning. Ideally the children will then take them home each Friday to be washed. We will begin our P.E. units this year with netball and basketball.
- Children should bring a change of clothes and shoes if they intend to use the field at playtime during wet weather.
- To ensure that any 'found' items can be returned to their owners, please can you ensure that your child's P.E. kit and other clothing brought to school is clearly named.
- Children will need their swimming kits on **Thursdays**.

Music

- In Year 4, the children take part in the '1 Term 2 Learn' programme, where they will all be learning to play percussion instruments for the autumn term.

Homework

- Homework is usually set on a **Friday** and should be returned by the following **Wednesday**. This is unless a project task is set; in such cases the children will have more time to complete it. In most instances, homework will be linked to what the children have been learning in class that week or a task in preparation for the following week's learning.
- The children will be handed spelling books (hopefully by the end of this week). Please ensure that your children have their spelling books with them every **Monday** so they can receive an up-to-date spelling list for the week. Spellings will be reviewed with the children on Fridays.
- Please try and read with your children as much as possible – supporting your child by listening to them read and engaging with them on the content of their reading material.

- Your child's reading record book should continue to be used to record reading undertaken. Daily reading material will include your child's school reading book, but can of course extend to texts such as other reading books, newspapers, recipe books etc. Children will be encouraged to change and record their school reading books themselves and time is available each day for them to do this.

This term:

This term is an extremely busy one for us in Year 4 as our topic is Stones, Bones and Thrones, dealing with British prehistory from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. This topic has a clear historical focus and links to geography, design and technology and art (see the adjoining page for further details). There will also be many exciting experiences for us to look forward to which include:



- A visit to Butser Ancient Farm;
- Our class assembly;
- Cooking opportunities as part of the Harvest celebrations.

Ideas for supporting your child's learning:

- Useful websites for homework help include:
<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/homework/timeline.html> then click on the prehistoric Britain link.
Or watch 'The Story of Britain found at: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01zfxnh>
- Visiting the local library.
- Useful books to read include non-fiction texts about the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age.
- Help to develop your child's mental maths by playing games such as 'ping-pong', fizzbuzz and other games that the children will learn this term.
- Help your child to become more confident with telling the time (on the 12- and 24-hour clock).

Finally...

- I am available after school most afternoons if you need to discuss any matters you might have or you may speak with the office to arrange a time to speak with me.
- Please let us know if you are able to help with trips, special events and cooking activities – your help is most welcome!