



The Abbey Primary School

Winchester Road, Delapre, Northampton, NN4 8AZ
Tel: 01604 660100 Website: www.abbeyprimary.co.uk

6th January 2017

Lower Key Stage 2 – Topic Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope that you and your families have had an enjoyable, relaxing Christmas break and the children are refreshed and ready to learn for the new term.

This term we are starting new units where the main focusses are Science and DT. The details of these topics are explained below.

Year 3

Our topic this term is 'Let's go on an adventure. Would we like to visit Guatemala?' In our Science work we will learn all about forces including pushes and pulls, friction and air resistance. We will have the opportunity to design and make Mayan God puppets. We will develop our understanding of where Guatemala is and what the country is like. In History, we will look back to find out when and why the Mayan people left their cities.

Year 4

Our topic this term is 'Should we stop eating chocolate?' Our learning will involve the story of chocolate, where it came from and understanding the climate where cocoa trees grow. We will carry out a design and technology project which will include market research, product development, creating and making chocolate bars, analysing and improving them and creating packaging. In Science, we will be doing work about materials. We will learn about dissolving, reversible and irreversible changes and the effect of eating chocolate on our teeth. We will also visit Cadbury World for our School trip.

Please look at the school website www.theabbeyprimary.co.uk for more curriculum information about your child's year group.

Blogs

We have recently launched our Year Group blogs which can be found on the school website and will give you the opportunity to stay up to date with all the exciting things your children get up to.

Headteacher: Mrs Renuka Popat B.Ed Hons., NPQH

Showcase of Learning

Thank you to all the parents who attended our learning showcases in December. It was great to see you all and the children really enjoyed sharing their learning. This term the Year 3 learning showcase will be on Tuesday 7th February 2017 and the Year 4 learning showcase will be on Monday 6th February 2017. These sessions run from 2.30pm to 2.50pm. We feel it is very valuable for the children to share their learning with you and also for you to see their classroom environment. Therefore you are invited to come into school during these sessions to spend time with your child in their classroom. It would be lovely to see you!

Reading

Your child is expected to read regularly at home (at least 3 times a week to an adult) and their reading record is checked by their class teacher on a weekly basis. We encourage all parents/carers and grandparents to read with their children at home to further develop their child's reading skills. Please can we remind you to date, sign and make a positive comment regarding your child's reading in their reading record. The children are also able to read age appropriate e-books through Bug Club and their password can be found on their password card. Although in Key Stage 2 we encourage independent reading, it is essential that the children continue to share books with you, visit the local library, and discuss stories they have read.

Online Resources

The children have access to a wealth of resources which are available to use both in and out of school. These websites and programmes offer an interactive and fun way for the children to extend their learning. We highly recommend the children use these regularly. Links can be found on the school website to My Maths, Bug club, Espresso and Purple Mash. If your child has any problems logging into any of these please let your child's class teacher know.

Homework

Your child will receive homework weekly. The children have a homework diary and they are responsible for recording the tasks we set them. Please feel free to use this diary to communicate with your class teacher.

Subject	Day given out	Due in
Maths	Monday	Thursday
Literacy	Thursday	Monday

Topic Homework This will be given out at the end of a term.

My Maths

The children will now be receiving a weekly 'My Maths' homework, to access this homework the children must log into their own portal using their personal username and password (which can be found on their password card). If your child does not have access to this at home, they are given the opportunity to complete it in school. There are also a variety of maths games which are available for the children to play.

Current percentage of pupils accessing their My Maths homework:

Miss Roberts 50%

Mrs Ward 50%

Miss White 72.4%

Miss Benjamin 78.5%

PE Kit

Classes have PE twice week for an hour. The sessions may be indoors or outdoors depending on the weather. Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school **every day**. We recommend you include a jumper, jogging bottoms (no bright colours) and trainers/plimsolls in case the lesson takes place outdoors, and that all jewellery is removed prior to coming to school. This includes earrings, bracelets and necklaces.

Important Diary Dates

Thursday 26th January 2017 - Year 4 trip to Cadbury World

Monday 6th February 2017 - Year 4 Learning Showcase

Tuesday 7th February 2017 - Year 3 Learning Showcase

Wednesday 8th February 2017 - Year 3&4 Valentines Disco 5.00 – 6.00pm

Thursday 9th February 2017 - Miss Benjamin's class assembly

Friday 10th February 2017 – School closes for half term 3.00pm

If you have any questions regarding our topic work and homework please speak to your child's Class teacher at the end of the school day. We are more than happy to help!

Yours sincerely,

Miss Benjamin
Lower Key Stage 2 Coordinator