

Ellesmere Primary School

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www.ellesmereprimaryschool.org.uk www.twitter.com/EllesmerePS
Headteacher: Mr Stuart Roberts, BSc Hons, PGCE



Friday 26th April 2018

Happy Summer Term!

We hope you all had a lovely Easter – where has the year gone! The children worked so hard last term and are showing amazing progress. One particular highlight for us was seeing the dedication and excitement the children showed when designing and performing their puppet shows for Key Stage 1. It was such a good morning and the children really flourished. We have lots more lovely learning opportunities planned for the children this term.



Our Topics



This term our theme is Ancient Civilisations with a focus on **Ancient Greece**. We have introduced the topic by looking at the timeline of dates/periods in history that the children are already familiar with. As part of our new Topic curriculum, the children will spend a couple of weeks studying different aspects of Ancient Greece by learning a range of skills. By the end of the topic, they will be applying skills they have learnt to their own chosen subject. We can't wait to see what they come up with!

Later this term, in English, we will be looking at the story of Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief, and creating our own mythical legends. We will also be looking at the author Shakespeare when studying Macbeth; the children will be given the opportunity to perform play-scripts and storyboard their understanding.



We continue to embed times tables with regular weekly/daily tests and by providing the children with experiences of how and when to use them. As the year comes to a close, the focus shifts to applying all the concepts covered so far which will lead to a deeper understanding as opposed to simple fluency. This will then provide them with the skills to approach a range of problems and prepare them for the next stage as they move up to Year 5.

Homework

Children

Mathletics

will continue to receive weekly homework. This will be set on a Friday and will consist of a piece of literacy and, either a written or online maths activity. The online maths activity will be through Mathletics or Purple Mash and the children will be informed when they need to complete them. If you experience any problems logging on, please let us know so we can try to solve the issue. Spelling and Big Maths tests will be conducted on a Friday. Please help your child to be prepared and give them a prompt to ensure they have their Homework Diary every Thursday.

As this is our final term of Year 4, it is vital that the children are thoroughly fluent with all their times tables up to 12. To support their learning we encourage them to use Top Marks, BBC, Time tables Rock Stars and of course, the new and extremely popular Mathletics Multiverse.



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Where possible encourage your child to read daily at home, even if it is just 5 minutes squeezed in. It doesn't have to be their book from school, it could be a magazine, comic, annual or anything else they enjoy. If your child has read out loud to you, please make a note of it in the reading comments section of their homework diary. In Year 4 we are expecting the children to not only decode the words, but to understand what they have read as well. You can support them in this through questioning them about the book.



Swimming & PE –We continue to have P.E on Wednesday afternoon. Children will need to bring (or keep in school), both their indoor AND outdoor kits with them each week unless told otherwise. As a school, we are aiming to ensure that all children are dressed consistently in line with school policy and are prepared for all conditions.

Therefore we ask that you make sure that your child has a white t-shirt, blue shorts and pumps/outdoor trainers. As specified in our transition letter, old round neck school jumpers can be used during colder conditions in addition to blue jogging bottoms, no other hoodies or bottoms please. Long hair also needs to be tied back for both girls and boys. Swimming for both classes will also remain on a Tuesday afternoon. Please encourage your child to take responsibility for ensuring they have the required kit in school. Boys should be in fitted shorts or trunks and girls a one-piece swimming costume. It is suggested that children with earrings leave them out for that day or cover with tape if they have just been pierced. Children with long hair will also require a swimming cap.

Water bottles – children are allowed to have water bottles in class as it is good for them to keep hydrated throughout the day. **However**, they should only contain water: no juice please! Additionally, please make sure that they have hats, sunglasses and sun-cream if the weather calls for it. We are unable to apply sun cream on the children but are happy for them to bring it in and apply it themselves (under observation if needed).



Final Note:

On 16th May, we will be heading off to Telford to utilise our design and technology skills at Enginuity. Details are on Dojo and Parentpay but, as always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate in coming in to speak to us.

Many thanks,

Mrs Masey, Mrs Clarke and Mrs Foster

