



## Lower Key Stage 2 Spring Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

We wish you a Happy New Year and a warm welcome back to school. We hope you have enjoyed the festive season with your families.

### Curriculum and Learning.

The topic for the Spring term in Year 3 is 'Chocolate!' Throughout the topic the children will be learning about the origins of chocolate and the Ancient Maya Civilisation. In Year 3 we will be learning about the cities of Ancient Maya and significant explorers. For their Art studies this term, Year 3 will be discovering about Van Gogh. The topic in Year 4 is 'Pompeii' this term, the children will be exploring the History of Pompeii and the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. The Year 4 children will be learning how to play the recorder in their music lessons and exploring music notation.

### P.E

<b>Year 3</b>	Thursday pm	Wear P.E kit to school. Long hair tied up and earrings taken out/covered in plasters.
<b>Year 4</b>	Monday pm	

### Uniform

Please make sure all pieces of clothing have your child's name in it – especially ties and jumpers. Children need to be in the correct uniform for the time of year and ensure they come to school with coats when necessary. We will be going outside unless there is heavy rain and we want our children to be comfortable and safe.

Avoid sending your children to school with large rucksacks as they take up lots of room and can make it difficult for others to access their coat peg easily.

### Times Tables Rockstars

Could we remind you to encourage your child to go on TT Rockstars as much as they can. This will really support all of the children but especially those in Year 4 children to prepare them to take their Multiplication Test in June.

We understand that many of you would like to limit screen time but just ten minutes a day would really benefit their recall skills and prepare them for the rest of Key Stage 2.

### School library visits

<b>Year 3</b>	Wednesdays	Children must bring in their previous library book in order to get a new one.
<b>Year 4</b>	Tuesdays	

### Year 3 Swimming

Lessons for Year 3 children will take place on Tuesday afternoons at Hucknall Leisure Centre.

**Miss Mountain's class will swim for 11 weeks every Tuesday from the 7<sup>th</sup> January to the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2025.**

Please see the information letter for this on the school website on the Year 3 page/Class Dojo.

### Hucknall Library Visits

This half term we will be visiting the library in Hucknall. This is a chance for your child to return any books, take out new ones or simply enjoy looking at the books! We really need parent helpers to come with us otherwise we will not be able to go.

## Reading

The children are now well underway with using Accelerated Reader and will continue to use this throughout the Spring Term.

The children will be assessed every term on their reading level using Accelerated Reader and they will be given books to read and then take quizzes on. These books will be a specific level and we recommend they read each book at least three times before taking a quiz – this seems repetitive however it helps with their understanding of the text. The children are expected to take at least one quiz a week to aid their continued progression in their comprehension and wider reading skills.

Each child will also choose an additional book that they can read for pleasure. This book can be from any source: the school library, public library, home or borrowed. It can be at any level, genre or style; the main thing is that they want to read it. The children will also have a reading diary this year – please record all reading that your child completes at home in this as they will be checked by your teacher every week. If we feel they are not practicing enough at home, we will have to make additional times to do this in school.

Children should make sure they read every night for **at least 15 minutes**. Children are expected to have their reading book in school every day, including on P.E days.

Just to give you an idea of the importance of reading, 15 minutes a night, can work out to six whole school days a year of reading! This benefits the children in all areas of their learning and not just in reading.

## Dates for diary

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January- Return to school

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January- Yr 4 class assembly

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February- Yr 3 Chocolate workshop

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February- Break up for half term

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February- Return to school

W/C 10<sup>th</sup> March- Science week

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March- Yr 3 Class assembly

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March- Parents evening (In person)

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April- Yr 3 Parents evening  
Phone calls

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April Yr 4 Parents evening  
Phone calls

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April- Break up

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April- Return to school

## What do I need to bring into school?

**Water bottle** – please make sure this is taken home to be cleaned and refilled every day with water only.

**Reading Book** – this must be brought every day. Children read every day in school.

Pupils are still not permitted to bring items in from home. This includes pencil cases and notebooks.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter and thank you for continuing to read at home with your children – this is so important.

As always, we are here if you need us and the best way to contact us is through Dojo.

**Lower Key Stage 2 Team**