

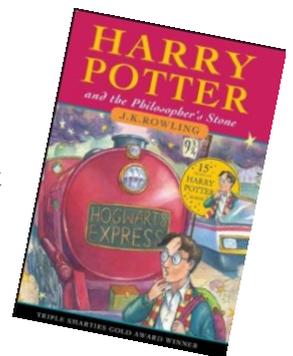
January 2019

Dear Parents,



Happy New Year! I hope you all enjoyed a very happy Christmas and New Year and are ready to embrace all the challenges 2019 has to offer. As we begin the Spring Term, I want the children to set high targets and expectations for themselves. I want to ensure that they each make the maximum progress possible and really develop the desire to 'do their best' in every single lesson. They will need to listen carefully, work conscientiously and maintain concentration so that they can produce their best work and feel proud of their achievements.

Up until half-term, we will be studying Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone by JK Rowling. This is a great story and a challenging read. We will be using this text as a basis for our written work across a range of genre and as well as supporting our grammar and spelling activities. Please sign the consent form at the bottom of this letter to allow your child to watch extract from the film as part of our lessons. There are lots of supporting and fun activities on the Pottermore.com website for the children to explore including being sorted into



their Hogwarts House and finding their wand should they wish to.



fascinating topic.

After half-term, we will be learning about the Titanic and using events from before and after the sinking as a stimulus for our writing. We will also learn about icebergs, the Atlantic Ocean and the water cycle in Geography to compliment this

On a Monday afternoons throughout this term, we will be joined by Year 4 and will enjoy an afternoon of Art where we will learn to draw using perspective. Afternoon Tea with Mrs Williams will run along-side these sessions and children will get the opportunity to bake and participate in curriculum-linked activities during this special time.



In science we will be start by exploring the properties of light and finding out how we see. We will be devising experiments to find out about shadows and how they are cast. After half-term we learn about living things and their habitats.



In RE, we will be studying Genesis 1:1 – 2:3 and considering the creation story and how it is viewed by different people including the scientific community, as well as revisiting the Easter Story.

Homework will continue to be sent home on a Friday, to be handed in the following Wednesday. Children are expected to read to an adult at least three times a week, in addition to any reading they do in school. It is a well-known fact that regularly reading quality stories and subsequent ‘book talk’ has a very positive effect in developing writing skills as well as improving reading and comprehension skills. These will be especially important next term as Year 6 approach the SATs in May.

‘Golden Tickets’ will be given out on a Monday when reading diaries are checked and you will have the opportunity to win a book at the end of term in the prize draw. Remember you have to be in it to win it – there is no limit to how many tickets you can earn. Congratulations to Dominik who won the ‘Wizards of Once by Cressida Cowell.’ Who will win the next book?



Mrs Dixon will continue to teach comprehension and geometry on a Tuesday morning, with Miss Quigley taking Class 4 for PE and French on a Tuesday afternoon when Mrs Dixon takes Class 3 outside for Forest Schools.. Adriano will continue to coach Class 4 on a Thursday morning, and this term will cover netball, hockey and tennis skills. As these lessons will be taught outside unless it is raining heavily, it would be advisable for the children to wear gloves, hats and waterproof jackets over the next few months and bring a change of socks just in case they get wet feet.

It is important that school and home work together as a partnership. I have included some suggestions to help you support your child over the next term and will be available to discuss any issues or concerns briefly in the mornings from 8:45am, or a Monday or Wednesday afternoon until 4pm. Should you require a longer discussion please contact the school office and to make an appointment.

Best wishes for a great term,

*Mrs Roberts*