

Garlinge Primary School and Nursery



Years 3 and 4 Newsletter -Terms 3 and 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to begin by wishing you all a very 'Happy New Year' and wish you all the best for a happy and healthy 2018. The Year 3 and 4 teachers are greatly looking forward to the terms ahead with new topics and fresh challenges and as always, we welcome all the valuable support that you give us. This newsletter aims to update you on some key information about the coming terms within the department, as well as providing you with information which you may find useful when supporting your child.



How you can help your child

Uniform

The children have all returned to school looking lovely and smart and we would like all of the children to continue to take pride in their school uniform. A full uniform list is available on our school web-site www.garlingeprimary.co.uk or if you are unsure, please do speak to your child's class teacher.

There have recently been incidents of lost items of uniform, so please ensure that all items of school uniform are clearly named to enable us to return any lost clothing to the right child. All items of lost property can be found outside the medical room.

PE

In the winter months, please continue to help your children to be organised for PE by making sure that they always have a PE kit in school. This should consist of a white T-shirt, dark shorts and plimsolls for indoor PE; trainers for outdoor PE. Dark coloured joggers and sweatshirts can be worn for outdoor PE during the winter months as we will continue to take the children outdoors wherever possible.

Homework

The majority of the children in Years 3 and 4 have settled well into their homework routines, using their homework activities to reinforce their learning in class as well as developing the important skills of **independence and organisation**. Homework is an important way in which you can support your child's learning and consists of weekly tasks set by class teachers. Please ensure that your child takes pride in their homework, presenting their tasks neatly and completing them to the best of their ability within the time set.

Your children will bring home a reading book with them each day. Please support your child by listening to them read on a daily basis as well as spending time discussing their books with them. We also continue to take part in the ever popular weekly 'Buster's Book Club' competition, where children can record a target number of minutes spent reading at home on Wednesday evening to help towards the possibility of winning a class trophy. The children do really enjoy finding out which class has won the trophy, so please support your child with this and do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions.

Times tables and weekly spellings should also be practised daily.

Reading for Pleasure

We are working very hard as a school to raise the profile of reading for pleasure amongst our children and the children are enjoying the many opportunities they are given to enjoy reading a range of books, comics etc in school. Please support us at home by sharing books that you enjoy with the children, helping them to understand that reading can be a wonderful way to learn and relax. Many of our children have also shared with us that they are members of a local library, which is wonderful and the children enjoy sharing with us ways that they can use the library to find books to read for pleasure as well as supporting them with homework tasks.



We have shared with the children the titles of books which are recommended as 'good reads' for their age groups. Following feedback from parents we have also provided a list of these recommended texts for each year group that meet the expected standard. These can be found under English on the school's website.

Packed Lunch

We are proud to have been awarded 'Healthy School' status—we therefore encourage parents to pack a healthy lunchbox for their child and we discourage chocolate and crisps. The children are also able to bring in a piece of fruit to eat at break times.



Topics and Learning

The main topic areas in Years 3 and 4 for the coming terms are as follows:

Year 3

	<u>Term 3</u>	<u>Term 4</u>
History/Geography	Ancient Greece	Modern Greece
Science	Animals including humans	Animals including humans
RE	Judaism	Christianity

Year 4

	<u>Term 3</u>	<u>Term 4</u>
History/Geography	Roman Britain	Roman Britain
Science	Sound	Animals including humans
RE	Christianity	Christianity

Targets

All of the children have been given new targets for maths, reading, writing and science to ensure that they continue to move forward and make the progress expected of them. These are displayed in the classroom and on the front of children's books so the children should know their targets and be constantly working towards achieving them in terms 3 and 4. Please do take the time to discuss these with your child and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries regarding them.



Clubs

We have been pleased to see a number of children taking advantage of the wide variety of after school clubs that are offered at the school. During the coming terms, please encourage your children to attend clubs that may be of interest to them and please do not hesitate to contact Miss Tanner in the school office if you have any queries regarding them. We are also pleased to inform you that the children get the opportunity to take part in a variety of clubs and activities at lunchtime which continue to be very popular.

Parent Workshops

Our Parent Workshops continue to be very popular and we were delighted with the number of parents and carers that we were able to welcome into our classrooms last term-thank you to all of you who were able to come along. We do hope that you value the experience of working alongside your child in the classroom-we know the children certainly do! We will continue to organise these through the year, so please look out for details of upcoming workshops in terms 3 and 4.

Important Dates

Please take the time to check with your child each day to see if they have been given any letters.

Key dates for your diary:

Wednesday 10th/17th January-Year 4 Cricket Workshops in school

Thursday 8th February-End of Term 3

Friday 9th February-INSET Day

Monday 19th February-Term 4 begins

Tuesday 6th March-Year 4 trip to Museum of Kent Life for a Roman Day (further details to follow)

Friday 23rd March-Annual Pupil Reports to parents

Monday 26th March (2.15pm)-Year 4 Easter Production to parents (further details to follow)

Tuesday 27th March (9.15am) - Year 4 Easter Production to parents (further details to follow)

Wednesday 28th March -Parents Evening

Thursday 29th March -End of term 4



Finally, if you have any questions regarding any of the information in this newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's class teacher. We all look forward to a successful couple of terms and thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs A.Goode,
Assistant Headteacher and Department Leader