

Garlinge Primary School and Nursery



Years 3 and 4 Newsletter -Terms 3 and 4

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to begin by thanking you for your support in settling the children back after the Christmas holiday. Term 3 is whizzing by and the children are all working hard and enjoying a fresh start to a new term!

The Year 3 and 4 team are greatly looking forward to the terms ahead with new topics and 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.

Staff

There have been a few changes in staffing within the department since the last newsletter. Please find below an updated list of adults working in each class:

3A-Miss Setchfield TAs-Miss Newing, Mr Yakar and Mrs Moore	4A-Miss Rowden TAs-Mrs O'Donnell, Mrs Wilson and Mrs Wigington
3B-Miss Bobbett TAs-Mrs Cole and Mrs Cook	4B-Mrs Billingham TA-Miss Keeler and Mrs Smith
3C-Ms Bridgeman TAs-Mrs Unthank, Mrs Smith and Mrs Taylor	4C-Mrs Goode TAs-Mrs Brookman and Mrs Wilson
3D-Mrs Moore TAs-Mr Newby and Miss Hudson	4D-Mrs Greenfield TAs-Mrs Harnett-Fuller and Mrs White

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

We are still finding that many children do not have a PE kit regularly in school or have items missing. Although classes have their set PE days, it is important that the PE kit remains in school at all times in case lesson times need to change. The PE kit should consist of a team coloured 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**. We have been really impressed with the recent homework projects the children have completed on Ancient Egypt, London and Roman Britain. Please take a look at the Lower Key Stage 2 area of the school website in the next few weeks for photos of some examples of these. The children took great pride in sharing these with their classes and it was clear that a lot of hard work and time had been spent on them. Thank you for your support with this!

Please continue to look out for weekly homework tasks and encourage your children to approach all tasks with independence, ensuring that tasks are **handed in on time**. In **Year 3**, homework will be set every Friday to be handed in the following Wednesday. In **Year 4**, homework will be set every Thursday to be handed in the following Tuesday.

Reading

Thank you for supporting your child with their reading at home. This really is a vital part of the children's routine and whilst we appreciate time is often an issue, 10-15 minutes of reading with your child every day will really help them succeed in school. The children also really enjoy the Wednesday Busters challenge so please continue to support this and make sure that those bookmarks are signed!



We are continuing to work 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.

Times Tables

The teaching and learning of times tables and division facts continues to have a high profile at Garlinge and we value the support that you are able to give the children as they learn these. As I am sure you are aware, Year 4 children are expected to know **all** of their times tables and division facts up to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4 and Year 3 pupils should be fluent in the 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables by the end of Year 3.

We have been really impressed with the children's commitment to using Times Tables Rock Stars as a fun and challenging way of helping to learn their times tables. They particularly enjoying taking part in 'battles' against different classes and can get very competitive which is great fun!

Please do continue to support this and don't hesitate to ask your child's class teacher if you have any questions about the resource.



Topics and learning

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.



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	Why is Jesus inspiring to some people?	Why are festivals important to religious people?

Year 4

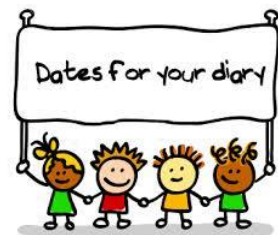
	<u>Term 3</u>	<u>Term 4</u>
History/Geography	The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain	The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain
Science	Electricity	All living things and their habitats
RE	Why do people pray?	Why are festivals important?

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 in terms 1 and 2. We do hope that you value the experience of working alongside your child in the classroom-we know the children certainly do! We look forward to seeing you at our parent workshops this term.

Key dates for your diary:

- Friday 24th January** – Young Voices at the O2-school choir event
- Thursday 30th January**-Year 4 Parent Workshop (1.45pm-3.00pm)
- Friday 31st January**-Non uniform Day (details to follow)
- Wednesday 12th February**- Year 3 Parent Workshop (1.45pm-3.00pm)
- Thursday 13th February** - End of term 3
- Friday 14th February** - INSET Day
- Monday 24th February** -Term 4 starts
- Thursday 26th March** -Year 4 Easter Play to parents at 2pm (details to follow)
- Friday 27th March** - Year 4 Easter Play to parents at 9.15am (details to follow)
-Annual Pupil Reports to parents
- Tuesday 31st March** - Parents Evening (details to follow)
- Wednesday 1st April** - 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,

A Goode

Mrs A.Goode
Assistant Headteacher and LKS2 Department Leader