

Cranford Park Academy
Year 4 Autumn Newsletter 2017



Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Welcome back to school and welcome to Year 4! We have already had a great start to the new school year this week and the children have settled into their new classes. They have shown a positive attitude and are working really hard. All of year four are very excited about the year ahead.

P.E. Sessions

We are very privileged in Year 4 for the children to participate in PE sessions with specialist coaches. Children will be receiving specialist coaching in swimming and outdoor sports, each term the P.E timetable will change. Each class will be receiving 9 or 10 weeks of specialist swimming coaching at Botwell Pool. During these weeks this will count as that class's indoor PE session. For swimming, children will need to have a tight fitting swimming costume (no baggy shorts for boys), a towel and a swimming hat. Every child will need a swimming hat, including boys. If children do not have the correct kit they will not be able to join their class at the swimming lessons but they still will be expected to attend and watch.

The swimming for your class are as follows.

4PD – 12.9.17- 14.11.17

4HM – 21.11.17-6.2.18

4MD – 20.2.18-1.5.18

4BG – 8.5.18- 17.7.18

Please ensure you child has their P.E in school each week. During the winter months some P.E sessions will be outdoors so they can wear plain navy or black tracksuit bottoms.

'Get Cranford Park Fit'

Rob is going to continue his get fit session he started last year. The sessions will take place every Tuesday and Thursday 8:15am-8:45am. All ages and abilities are welcome and parents/guardians are encouraged to participate alongside the children. The sessions will take place in the Junior Playground or on the field when dry and in the Infant Hall when wet. There will be no charge for this club. Come along and have a go! The idea of the club is to increase fitness levels and to promote healthy and active lifestyles in a safe, fun and enjoyable environment.

Timetables

There have been some changes to lunches this term. All year 4 will have a later lunch on Wednesdays 12:45-13:45 and when it's their turn for swimming (Tuesday). Therefore, we encourage your child to bring in fruit on these days to eat at break time.

Looking ahead

This term we will be learning all about the Romans. As part of this topic we will be looking at Roman culture, art and everyday Roman life. As part of this topic we are planning a trip to Verulamium Museum in St Albans on Friday 1st December. This is an old Roman settlement where the children will get to see real Roman artefacts. You will be receiving a letter about this trip soon. We are inviting you in near the end of term tour Roman market on Wednesday 6th December giving you the opportunity to come and see all the wonderful things your children have learnt about the Romans and some of the artwork and other creations!

We will also be learning about Christianity in Religious Education and materials in science. From past experience, we know the children find all these topics fascinating. Any background reading the children can do at home, using books borrowed from the library or from information found on the internet, will greatly assist them in developing their understanding of these subjects.

During October Years 3 and 4 are coming together to put on an autumn assembly. There is a choice of two dates for these assemblies either Thursday 12th October 2:30pm or Friday 13th October 9:00am in the Junior Hall. You will receive a letter nearer the time explaining how you can book your place to see the show.

On Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th October, the last week of this half term, there will be a Year 4 Parents' Evening. This is an opportunity for you, as the parents or guardians, to find out how the children have settled in to school life and the progress they have made so far in Year 4.

We will also be holding a Maths Expectations meeting in year 4, this half term, focusing on the key objectives and how your children can reach their full potential. This meeting will be on Tuesday 7th November at 9am in the junior hall. You will receive more information about this event nearer the time and we look forward to seeing many of you there.

The last full week of this term will be the whole schools assessment week whereby your child will be sitting assessments in reading, SPAG and maths. It is vital that your child is in school on these days and tries their best to do well.

Reading

At Cranford Park Academy we believe that reading is very important to children's learning, it will help them to develop language skills, learn new vocabulary and support them in their own writing. It is very important that children read as often as

possible. This week your child should have received a book from the class library and a reading record. The reading records contain helpful words and tips to support your child's reading even further. We ask for your assistance with reading throughout the year reading with your child as much as you can, ideally every day for at least 15 minutes, and encouraging conversations about books by making comparisons etc. Reading can of course cover a whole range of genres, so reading at home might be a book, manual, newspaper, magazine... Your child's reading record will be checked every week and there is a reading race in every class. There will be bronze (40 ticks), silver (100 ticks), gold (150 ticks) and platinum (250 ticks) certificates rewarded every half-term during assembly. To ensure your child can be eligible for these prizes please make sure you sign the bottom of each page.

Spellings

This week your child will have received a list of up to 50 words. These are the spellings which children will need to learn over the **whole half term**. Each week the children will be tested on 10 words from the list of 50; there will not be a specific order in which the words are tested. Please be aware that in the first few tests the children may not get very high marks as they are not used to the new system, however towards the end of the half term children's marks will have improved and they are more likely to remember the spellings of all 50 words forever, not just for a test!

Homework

The children will be receiving maths and literacy homework every Friday and this will be due in the following Tuesday, (earlier if you wish). We greatly value your support with homework and encourage parents to help their child with the homework they are set, although, the homework is for your child, not you! Please ensure your child completes their homework to a high standard, any child who does not hand in their homework on time, or incomplete, will have a homework detention on Thursday lunchtime.

General reminders

- It is important that the children come to school with the right attitude, ready to work hard and enjoy the school day. Please ensure your child comes to school with the correct uniform including black school shoes.
- Remember the whistle for the start of the school day is blown at 8:50am. At this time all children should be lined up ready to enter the building.
- Please make sure your child has all their clothing named, especially P.E. kits, swimming kits and coats.

Finally, we would like to thank you for your continued support which we really value and appreciate. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.

We look forward to working together so that your child will have a happy and successful year.

Best wishes,
Year 4 class teachers

Mrs Dunn
Year 4 Team Leader

Mrs Hopley

Mr Ryan

Mrs Dennis

Miss Gibb