Parents / Guardians of children in Classes 4AN and 4SB, 10th September 2018

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome to the new school year. Hopefully your child has now settled into their new class and is becoming familiar with the day-to-day routines. We are lucky in Year 4 to have the support of a very experienced team of teaching assistants, which will be invaluable in supporting your child. Mrs Hall will be working on a full time basis and her role will involve aiding the children with their work in class, as well as supporting targeted children and groups with various aspects of their learning. Additionally, in 4SB, Mrs Byrne will be working with a specific child during the mornings. We are also lucky enough to have a trainee teacher, from the Devon Primary SCITT programme, joining us this term called Mrs Williams.

The autumn term is going to be a busy and exciting term for the children and we will be studying the following:

* Science: Animals, including humans
* RE: Inspirational People
* Outdoor PE: Multi-Skills and Multi-Sports (taught by Mr Bassett)

Indoor PE: Health Related Exercise

* History: The Anglo-Saxons
* Geography: Village Settlers
* French: Taught by Mrs Burton

Like previous years, the children will have the opportunity to learn to play the clarinet with a specialist teacher, Mr Norman. The lessons have already started and you will be asked for a voluntary contribution to cover the cost of replacement reeds at some point during the term.

The children will have Outdoor PE on a Thursday or Friday afternoon and Indoor PE on a Tuesday. Please ensure PE kit is labelled and remains in school at all times during term time. A track suit or similar warm clothing can be kept in PE bags for colder days during the winter months. It would also be useful if your child could bring in an old t-shirt or an apron for art activities, which should be kept in their lockers.

There are many ways you can help us support your child’s education at home. Your child will benefit from being encouraged to read for 10-15 minutes on a regular basis. When reading with your child, it is important to question them about what they’ve just read to check their understanding. Please write the page number your child has reached and ‘finished’. When they have completed their book, the book should then be returned to the school library and a new one selected. The new book, along with their Reading Log, should be put into the book tray provided so that we can keep a record of their progress. Please ensure that their books come to and from school on a daily basis. As a year group, children will be rewarded for their reading efforts and given a certificate for every 20 books that they read during the year. It is our belief that children should read fifty books during the year and that if they achieve this, they will be given a special certificate.

We will be continuing to use Times Tables Rock Stars as a way of developing a rapid recall of times tables facts and we would appreciate your efforts in ensuring that your child uses this program at home.

Homework will usually consist of a short English and Maths task, which should take no more than 25 minutes per task. There will also be spellings coming home during the term as well. Sometimes we will set homework using ‘My Maths’. All work will be given out and explained on a Friday and should be handed in by the following Thursday. Each child will be given a homework folder to keep their homework safe and secure.

If you have any concerns or queries about your child’s education or welfare, please do not hesitate to pop in and see us.

We look forward to meeting you all at the ‘Year 4 Getting to know you’ meeting on Wednesday 26th September 2018 at 3.30 pm in 4SB.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Bates Miss A Norton

Class 4SB Class 4AN