



Decoy Community Primary School And First Steps Nursery

Deer Park Road, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ12 1DH

Tel: (01626) 353282

Headteacher: Mrs Sally Herbert

admin@decoyschool.co.uk

Tuesday 13th September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please find below the information that you will need for this term in Year 4. We hope that it is useful, but do please get in touch if you need any other information.

Reading – in Year 4, the books that your children are reading usually come from the library as part of our Accelerated Reader scheme. We encourage you to discuss and question your child on their reading book; this will help them when they come to quiz. Obviously, the comprehension of the text is very important and a child cannot move onto the next level of books until their understanding is secure. Accelerated Reader (AR) quizzes can be taken at home but it is vital that children take these quizzes independently without adult support. Children's usernames and passwords will be written into the front of the reading record. The website for taking quizzes can be found at: <https://ukhosted51.renlearn.co.uk/2236651/default.aspx>, and this can also be found on our Google Classroom.

Children should record in their reading record which page they have read up to, and make a quick comment. We recommend that children try and read for at least ten minutes, at least once a day. If your child takes a quiz, this should also be recorded, along with their score. Please can an adult at home sign the reading record comments **four times a week** in order to evidence that your child has read. Helping our children to become fluent readers is perhaps THE most important thing we can do for them. Reading books and records need to be in school every day; we will check and sign reading records each time a pupil reads with an adult to make sure that children are keeping up with their reading.

Curriculum – The School website now contains the full curriculum for each year group and subject. However, below we provide a brief overview of this term's coverage.

Our theme for this half term is work associated with our Geography topic based upon Route 66 in North America.

- PSHE – Becoming a good school citizen
- Computing – using Scratch to make an educational game
- Design and Technology – we are designing and making a healthy sandwich for Paddington
- English – we will be writing a narrative story, based on Paddington Bear
- Geography – field work focusing on exploring physical and human features of Route 66
- History – Ancient Greece
- Mathematics – place value then addition and subtraction
- Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish) – my family
- Music – singing and ukulele



- Religious Education – what is the Trinity and its importance for Christians
- Physical Education – pilates and racquet skills
- Science – states of matter and sound

Homework – we will give homework once a week on a Friday, and collect books back in by the following Tuesday. We will usually set topic-related homework and children should also spend 20 minutes on their Sparx activities for the week. This is important in the coming months as we have the statutory Times Table Check in June. We will mark homework with ticks and a brief comment, and if there are any issues, we will talk to children about these at school. We do expect the children to present their work neatly to the standard they know is expected in their school books.

PE – our PE days are on Wednesdays and Thursdays on these days the children need to bring in their PE kit, as they will be getting changed at school.

Snacks – we would like your help to promote healthy snacks at break time. Please avoid sending in crisps, biscuits and chocolate bars, or anything containing nuts, and instead encourage the children to eat a piece of fruit, a cereal bar or breadsticks, for example.

Labelling – please may we kindly ask that all jumpers, coats, drinks bottles and packed lunch boxes are labelled with your child's name. As we are sure you will appreciate, finding and returning un-named lost property to children can be time consuming.

Emails – If you need to speak with us, we are available at 3:30pm when the children are collected. If this is not possible, our emails are:

rlawton@decoyschool.co.uk

lsingleton-green@decoyschool.co.uk

Please be aware that it is school policy that there is no expectation for staff to respond to emails outside of their working hours.

Both Mrs Lawton (Mallards) and Mrs Singleton-Green (Kingfishers) work Monday - Friday

We would like to thank you for your ongoing support.

Rachel Lawton and Loren Singleton-Green

Year 4 Class Teachers