

Stag Lane Middle School
Parent Overview
Year 4
Autumn Term 2008



Welcome to Year 4! The Class Teachers are Mr Davies, Mrs Heath and Miss Peters. The Teaching Assistants are Mrs Morjaria, Miss Johnson, Mrs Vaghela and Mrs Friend. The children will also be taught Art by Mrs Powell and Music by Miss Ferguson.

Homework

Pupils have a homework diary in which homework is set. Please sign it weekly to show you have noted that your child has homework. Your child will be expected to:-

- read each night to an adult for at least 20 minutes;
- complete one piece of numeracy and one piece of literacy homework per week;
- practice times tables to 10 x 10;
- finish work from other subjects when necessary;
- practise learning new spellings using the 'Look, Say, Cover, Write and Check' method.

We would also appreciate your co-operation in the following matters. Please ensure that your child has these items of equipment:

PE Equipment (to be clearly labelled)

PE bag
Black/Navy shorts
White T-Shirt
Plimsolls/Trainers
Red track suit in winter (optional)

Pencil Case

Writing pencils
Colouring pencils
Ruler
Rubber
Sharpener
Glue stick

Please note that children must be properly equipped for PE and Games lessons or they will not be able to take part. Those without their kits will have to observe the lesson and fill out an observation form. You will receive a letter if your child has not brought in his/her PE kit for two consecutive weeks.

In addition, we must have a note if your child cannot take part in physical activities. As mentioned in the previous booklet, **no jewellery is permitted to be worn during lessons**. This is following strict health and safety guidelines devised by the Harrow Borough.

Outings/Events

Year 4 will take part in an Ancient Greek day at school in conjunction with our History topic and will visit a mosque as part of our topic of Islam.

How You Can Help

- Encourage children to read to an adult daily and discuss the text they have read. Ensure that they understand new vocabulary.
- Read and discuss school and homework with your child. We value any suggestions or comments that you may have.
- Ensure that homework is completed.
- Visit the local library/Internet to gather information about the topics we are covering.
- Suggestions for family outings - The Natural History Museum for topics being covered in Science and The British Museum offers experiences and artefacts relating to the Ancient Greek Civilization. Alternatively you can visit www.britishmuseum.ac.uk

Curriculum Coverage this Term

Literacy

We continue to follow the National Literacy Strategy looking at a range of fiction and non fiction. The children will study characters, settings and plot in stories, play scripts and poems. They will also learn about non-fiction texts including instructions, reports and newspapers.

Maths

We will begin to use the renewed Numeracy framework. Children will be grouped for maths lessons according to their needs. They will be learning about place value, the four operations, fractions and decimals and data handling. Calculator work will become much more important alongside speaking and listening.

Science

Our first topic will be "Moving and Growing". This will include looking at the human skeleton, muscles and animal skeletons. In the second half of term we will be investigating the topic of Keeping Warm, which will deal with thermal insulators.

PSHE

Children will be identifying rules for their class, making appropriate choices and decisions. They will also consider who makes them and why we need them in school, at home and in the wider community. They will begin to know how to make good choices and about the influences that may affect their choices.

Religious Education

This term the children will be focusing on Islam. They will be looking at the key beliefs of the religion and learning about the prophet Muhammad (pbuh). They will also be focusing on the Five Pillars and the importance of the Qur'an and Mosque for Muslims.

Physical Education

The children will begin the term learning passing and dribbling skills in hockey and then transferring them to small sided games. In the second half of the term they will make a cross curricular link with the history topic of Ancient Greece, taking part in Greek dance and drama.

History

The children will be studying the Ancient Greeks to find out about daily life, Athens and Sparta, physical fitness, the Olympic Games, Greek Gods and Goddesses and the theatre. During the second half of the term, the children will be examining what the Ancient Greeks have handed down to us such as the alphabet, different words, building design and scholars.

ICT

Pupils will be learning to use a graphics package to create images of repeating patterns. They will use more advanced features of a word processor, alter the format - font, size, colour, alignment etc. and refine text using a spell check, move, copy and paste.

Music

The children will learn basic rhythms and notation of music. They learn how to put patterns together using body percussion and instruments, performing individually and as a group. They also explore melodic phrases in songs and explore different accompaniment to fit with songs.

Art

The children will be using the topic of journeys using media from the natural environment.

THIS INFORMATION IS JUST AN OVERVIEW, SHOULD YOU REQUIRE FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CHILD'S CLASS TEACHER.

PARENTS' EVENING IS ON 7TH OCTOBER, 2008.

**Many thanks!
Mr Davies**

