

## Year 4 Letter to Parents for Summer Term 2019

### Terrible Tudors!



Dear Parents,

It seems like only yesterday that I was arriving at St Edmund's to begin teaching in Year 4, but here we are just about to start our final term. I have loved being part of the school community and have thoroughly enjoyed teaching your children. This promises to be a fabulous term, especially if the glorious Easter weekend weather continues!

#### **Curriculum**

This term, our cross curricular English and History topic is Terrible Tudors. We will be studying the Tudors within the context of the history of Britain, focusing on Tudor monarchs and the power they held, and understanding that building alliances through marriage was important in the Tudor period. This will lead onto investigating and learning the names of Henry VIII's wives and exploring more about them and their marriages to Henry VIII. We will compare differences between how the rich and poor lived, dressed and ate. I anticipate the part of Tudor history that Year 4 will enjoy finding out more about is crime and punishment!

Within this topic, we will cover a range of text types including: an account of the Battle of Bosworth, writing a job description for the King of England, creating an advert for a wife for Henry, letter writing from the point of view of Anne Boleyn, biographies and autobiographies, fact files, diary entries of a poor/rich Tudor person, as well as working on related drama and learning key vocabulary. We will be continuing to read our class text 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell as we haven't finished it yet and we are all desperate to find out if Fred, Con, Lila and Max ever make it home.

We are still working on our SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar). Last term I sent home the results of your child's Year 3 and 4 common exception words spelling and reading results. We will be working on these words during our English and key skills lessons but any additional support you can give your child at home will be an added benefit, it really shows when children have had extra practice.

We are starting the term looking at time in Maths and then measurement, but a lot of the summer term will be spent consolidating everything we have learnt during Year 4 so far and deepening our understanding and then using our mathematical knowledge in different situations and to problem solve.

As well as Masses in school, the class will continue to attend Mass in church. The units covered in RE during the Summer term are Easter, Pentecost, Mission and Sacraments.

Year 4 will still have the opportunity to enjoy learning to play the violin each Tuesday (so don't forget your instruments) and French lessons on Thursday afternoons this term.

Our summer science lessons are concentrated on humans and animals; we will learn about how our digestive system functions, identify different types of human teeth and study food chains, discussing producers, predators and prey.

### **Homework**

A reminder that homework will be given out on **Friday** as usual and will be expected back in the following **Wednesday**, Spellings will be tested during the week. Please support your child by encouraging good presentation whilst enabling them to develop some independence. There is also an expectation that your child will read and discuss a chosen book, newspaper, magazine or any other source of writing for at least 20 minutes every day as this develops their comprehension and writing skills.

### **School Uniform and PE kit**

Please can you ensure your child is attending school in correct uniform and remembering to bring in their PE kit. Last term there were a lot of children regularly forgetting their PE kit. Pupils are expected to have their PE kit for indoor and outdoor activities, which includes trainers, plimsolls and track suit bottoms for the colder weather. Although we are scheduled to have PE twice a week, the expectation is that children keep their PE kits in school all week so that they can take part in any extra physical activities that may take place at short notice. We would also like to reinforce the fact that pupils should have a pair of plimsolls to wear indoors for wet weather.

### **Trip**

Finally, all the children are really looking forward to their trip to Sulgrave Manor on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May. To add to the whole experience of the day please could you provide your child with a Tudor lunch. Please find some suggestions below:

*Tudor Packed Lunch (preferably wrapped in brown paper or bag)*

*Rustic breads with ham or cheeses,*

*Boiled egg,*

*Fresh fruit and vegetables,*

*Flapjack,*

*Fruitcake,*

*Milk, apple juice, diluted squash or water*

Please note; there were no chocolate bars, chocolate spread, crisps or fizzy drinks in Tudor lunches!

If you have any queries about any of the above, or anything else please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your continued support,

*Mrs Boodell*