



Barcroft
Primary School



Year 3 and 4 Spring Term

JANUARY 2020

06/01/2020

Happy New Year!

Welcome back Year 3 and 4!

Key Dates

6th January— Children back to school.

9th January— Year 4 trip to Tamworth Castle.

14th January- Year 3- Stone Age Experience trip.

13th February— Barcroft Celebration Assembly.

Half term- 17th February— 21st February.

24th February— Staff Inset Day— school closed to children.

25th February— Children back to school.

25th and 27th February— Parents evenings.

Thursday 5th March—World Book Day.

Friday 3rd April— break up for Easter.

Welcome back, we hope that you have had a wonderful break and the children are excited and ready for a new term of learning. Spring Term holds some fantastic experiences and amazing trips; we hope that the children enjoy it as much as the staff will!

Contact and communication

We will continue to send messages and communicate with parents through the 'MarvellousMe' app and Emails. Please ensure you have informed the school of your updated email address. Could you also please ensure that the office have up to date information of people who are allowed to collect your child. This is vitally important to safeguard the children and your understanding with this is appreciated.

Attendance and punctuality

At Barcroft good attendance and punctuality is recognised and celebrated, as both are vital to a child's learning. Every day of missed school will have an impact on your child's learning. Our school day starts at 8:50 and guided reading starts promptly at 9:00.

During the Spring Term, Year 3 will be 'Rocking and Rolling' into the Stone Age. They will be comparing and analyzing periods of time and exploring what this period of time was like. During this topic, we have the opportunity to experience firsthand what life was like through our Stone Age trip. Year 4 will learn about Anglo-Saxon life, and children will explore how the Anglo-Saxons lived, where they came from and whom they fought with. They will focus on the renowned leader Alfred the Great.

Phase priorities-

Reading and Spelling

Reading and spelling remain key focuses for the phase this year. It is essential that children can use spelling rules and apply these in their written work. Reading frequently will help with this. All children have access to an app called Spelling Shed, which forms part of their homework allocation. Spellings are set every week and tested on Mondays. Please practise these spellings at home. Reading books will be issued on a Wednesday and should be brought back to exchange on a Monday.

Speed Readers

Children now have access to a program called Speed Readers, which can be used at home to develop the ability to read accurately at speed. We ask you to support your child by reading aloud for 5-10 minutes each day at home. Please continue to encourage your child to use Bug club at home also.

Times tables

This year, there will be a mandatory times tables test in Year 4. All children can access TT Rockstars at home and again we

would ask that the use of this app is encouraged at home as part of their homework allocation.

Homework

Children at Barcroft are expected to complete one and a half hours homework a week. This helps children settle into the routine of working at home and can help consolidate work done in class.

Homework will be set on a Wednesday each week and will be due in on the following Monday. Homework every week will include time spent on TT Rockstars, Spelling Shed, Bug Club/ reading and it will also cover arithmetic and another area of study.

Uniform

Please make sure that your child is wearing full school uniform when attending school. This includes uniform for PE.

PE- PE day is every Friday for Year 3 and every Thursday for Year 4. Please bring your child's PE kit on a Monday; it can be left at school and taken home on a Friday (to be returned again the following Monday). Please ensure that ear rings are removed for P.E. prior to the lesson.

What are we learning?



What is mindfulness?

Mindfulness means paying attention in a particular way, on purpose, in the present moment.. When your mind wanders, simply bringing it back to your breath or other object of focus and the present moment- again and again.

How can mindfulness help?

Mindfulness helps reduce stress by increasing positive moods and decreasing low moods and anxiety.

Here to help!

Your children are our top priority. Please talk to us if you have any questions or queries.

Mrs Edwards and the Year 3 and 4 team.