

Michael Morpurgo

Autumn Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Michael Morpurgo class. Here is some information that you will find helpful for the term ahead. Mrs Hill and Mrs Fennah will be the class teachers in Year 4 as Mrs Fennah will be leaving us near the end of the first half term to have her baby.

If there is anything you are unsure of, please catch us at the end of the day or make an appointment to see us.

Reading

Research has shown that children reading for pleasure and being read to, are fundamental to the academic success children achieve. It also widens their understanding of vocabulary, helps them understand how to write and spell. Once your child has been allocated a reading book please listen to your children read at least 4 times a week at home. If their book is too difficult for them to read independently, they might want you to read this to them. It is very helpful if all children have a named book bag and please can we ask that this bag is just for books and reading records – NO WATER BOTTLES IN BOOK BAGS PLEASE. Please sign the reading record when hearing your child read and note down anything helpful for the teacher about your child's reading. Although we might not be able to check everyone's reading records every day, we do look at your comments.

Homework

Children will be given 3 pieces of homework a week (Maths, Grammar and spelling). Homework will be sent home on the Friday and should be brought in the following Friday. Feedback will be given to the children in class.

PE

PE will be every Monday and Tuesday afternoon. Please ensure children come to school in their PE kits. Please ensure that PE kits contain plain black shorts, red or white t-shirt (a house coloured t-shirt if possible), jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt or tracksuit top. They will need trainers for outdoor PE (these can be the outdoor shoes they wear at playtime too). PLEASE NAME EVERYTHING including trainers. Many children come to school with very similar items of clothing and do not recognise their own always. Just writing the name on with a biro is sufficient on a label but check it regularly when washing as it might need rewriting every so often. Children should not wear any jewellery for PE, so it is helpful if they do not have earrings or watches on those days.

Jewellery

Jewellery school policy is to only allow a watch (an ordinary analogue watch or digital is best as opposed to Smartwatches) and a stud/pair of small stud earrings. Please do not send your child wearing hooped earrings as these can get caught on things easily and cause permanent damage to their ears.

Water bottles

Please send your child to school with a NAMED water bottle. These should just be filled with water. At lunchtime, they can have a still squash/juice drink if having a packed lunch.

Playtimes

Please send a pair of trainers for outdoor play so that we can use the field/playground all year round without covering the school in mud. Please, also ensure that, even if sunny in the morning, your child has a coat (named please). We go outside in light rain and the weather can change suddenly. It is better for them to have a coat in school that they don't wear rather than one sitting at home when they are cold. As it gets colder, NAMED hats and gloves are also beneficial. Please send your child with a healthy snack for breaktime – fruit, raisins, cheese or a cereal bar are ideal.

We are always happy to discuss any aspect of your child's education so please contact us if you are unsure or concerned about anything. If we are unable to speak to you immediately, we will arrange a convenient time. We look forward to a very productive term.

Kind regards

Mrs Hill and Mrs Fennah