

# Year 4 Newsletter (Summer)

Our topic this term: **All Living Things**

- Panda Class will be taught by Miss Gorringer and Mr Hackett and supported by Miss Phillips
- Panther Class will be taught by Mr Llewelyn and supported by Mrs Kanyuka and Miss Roe

## **English**

We continue to follow the Talk 4 Writing approach when teaching English at Beecroft Academy. Our new genre for the term is **explanation texts** and we will be studying the text **How a Giant Spider Catches its Prey**. The children will be learning the text and then creating their own version of an explanation text. We have provided a copy for you to share at home. Later in the term we will look at **non-chronological reports**, where we will be focussing on the various insects from **A Bug's Life**. We will also be looking at **Lost and Found**, a dilemma story by **Oliver Jefferies** as well as a range of poems by **Pie Corbett**. We will share a copies of these texts when each unit starts.

### ***At home:***

**Spelling** – The children all have a spelling book which is sent home along with reading records. Spellings should be practised at home and school daily.

**Handwriting** – We continue to have a big push on handwriting. Please help your child by showing them how to form letters correctly, including in their homework books.

**Reading**- Read with your child each evening and write a comment in their reading diary. We are also encouraging the children to read more for pleasure, so we advise regular trips to the library.

English homework is set fortnightly on a Friday.

## **Maths**

In maths we are concentrating on **negative numbers, Roman numerals, statistics, geometry, multiplication and division, time and fractions**.

By the end of Year 4 the children need to know all of their times tables up to 12 x 12. We will be practising times tables daily in school.

### ***At home:***

**Times tables**- We are trying extremely hard to achieve our times tables championships in Year 4. Please practise times tables at home with your child. Maths homework is set fortnightly on a Friday

## **PE**

Our PE slots for the year are as follows:

Panda Class – Tuesday and Friday

Panther Class – Tuesday and Friday

To help us out please could their PE kits be in school all week. Your child will be trying their hand at tennis, orienteering and athletics. In addition to this, Panda Class will continue to swim until

Monday 15 May. Panther Class will start swimming from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May up until the end of the school year.

***At home:***

PE kit should be a white t-shirt, black or blue coloured shorts, black tracksuit trousers, red jumper and trainers or plimsolls. Make sure all their kit is labelled clearly with their name and class and is kept in a named bag in a box. Your child will also need a hat, sun-cream and a water bottle for when the weather is nice.

**Creative curriculum**

Our topic this half term is **All Living Things**. The children will be learning all about a variety of animals and their habitats.

***At home:***

Each week your child will bring home their homework log. In this you will receive fortnightly maths and English homework and their work linked to the creative curriculum. You and your child may choose to complete any of the activities on the front sheet of your log when you would like.

**Reminders and dates**

**Uniform:** Please make sure that all new uniform is clearly labelled in case it is misplaced. That way it can be returned to the correct class as soon as it is located.

**Website:** Remember to check the class pages regularly for newsletters, texts, updates and photos from work in class.

**Homework:** This will be sent home every Friday and is due in on the Wednesday of the week after. Homework will now be set by the class teacher and will be weekly. It will alternate between Maths and English.

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May: Bank Holiday- No school**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May-Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May: Year 4 residential to Caldecotte Lake**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May: No swimming for Panda Class**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May: Panda Class swimming (final week)**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May: Panther Class swimming (first week)**

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May: Last day of the half-term**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June: Children return to school**

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June: Panda Class Assembly @9:00am**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June: Panther Class Assembly @9:00am**

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June: Year 3 and Year 4 Sports Day @11:00**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July: Transition days (children to their new classes)**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July: Panda Class to Hazard Alley, Milton Keynes**

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July: Panther Class to Hazard Alley, Milton Keynes**

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July: School reports to be sent home**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July: Panther Class swimming (final week)**

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July: Last day of term**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September: Children return to school**

**Please make sure that you check the Calendar section on our school website, as dates are subject to change and new dates are regularly added.**

<http://beecroftacademy.co.uk/calendar/>

## **How a Giant Spider Catches its Prey**

*Giant spiders are not large insects. They have eight legs and their bodies are in two main parts- the head and the abdomen. They eat by catching live prey.*

*They live in magic forests, especially favouring lonely paths where lost travellers may be wandering.*

*They build a complicated path that stretches across the path. They produce a silken web threads through spinnerets at the end of their abdomen. The giant spider then lies in wait, probably in a tree or a bush.*

*When an unsuspecting traveller passes by they will become stuck in the web because the threads are covered in a sticky substance that is stronger than super-glue. The spider then creeps into the web and proceeds to wrap its victim up.*

*Many giant spiders hide their prey in a lair. Here they continue to feed their victim, in order to fatten them up before eating them.*