



Lower Junior Newsletter – Summer 2023



I hope you have all enjoyed the Bank Holidays and managed to celebrate the King's Coronation in some way. We had a great time making crowns and having our 'Royal' picnic! The children are working hard and looking forward to the exciting lessons and activities we have planned for this term. Year 4 have already visited a synagogue in Maidenhead and were praised for their impeccable behaviour and good manners.

Water.

Please can all children bring in a water bottle to keep in their class so that they can have a drink throughout the day. Having their own, **named, reusable** water bottle is very important, as this is the only available water at break times and we don't want them to dehydrate in the hotter weather!

Snacks and Packed Lunches

Children are only allowed to eat fresh fruit or vegetables as their breaktime snack, unless a dietary/medical/sensory need has been identified with a recommendation by a professional. Please remember that no sweets should be included in a packed lunch and that we encourage healthy eating.

Topics

Year 3 are enjoying their 'Under the Canopy' topic and Year 4 have started the first part of their 'Scandalous Scoundrels' topic, which is all about the Anglo-Saxons. Children are encouraged to read books about their topics and carry out research to support their learning.

Uniform

All children must wear the correct uniform with all items clearly named in order that they can be returned to the owners if lost. May we remind you that children should wear black school shoes and not trainers or boots. Could you also ensure that your child continues to bring a coat for showery days! Please also observe the school rules for jewellery and ensure that, for safety reasons, only stud earrings are worn, which must be removed by the child for PE and swimming, or even better removed before coming to school on PE and swimming days. Religious bangles should be covered by a sweatband if they cannot be removed.

Physical Education

Your children will require a clean outdoor PE kit and this should also be clearly named. We have noticed some children are wearing multi-coloured inappropriate PE kits. Could we remind you that they should have a white t-shirt with the school logo and navy shorts. Trainers should be worn, not plimsolls. **We would ask for PE kits to remain in school now until the end of this half term**, as sometimes we have changes in timetable. All children should have the correct swimming kit including either a one piece swimsuit or swimming shorts for boys (which should not be longer than mid thigh as they are restrictive), but an all in one with slightly longer legs is ideal if you need a different costume for religious/cultural

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reasons, a swimming hat, towel and flip flops or crocs. **Shorts should not be worn over one piece costumes.**

Homework

We have recently noticed a few children easing off with their homework or it being handed in late. Please make sure your child's homework is completed each week and take the opportunity to participate in your child's learning. Completed tasks should be brought to school every Friday when there will be an opportunity for the children to share their work with other pupils. The children should also be working on Times Table Rock Stars and Spelling Shed to consolidate their learning. We would encourage children to spend a short time playing the games every day.

Reading

We have noticed that many of our children are not reading regularly at home and they are not bringing their reading records to school. Reading practice needs to take place daily at home for 10 minutes (Monday to Thursday and once over the weekend) with questioning to show understanding. We request that parents record a brief comment in their child's reading record and sign each time they read. If children read texts other than their school reading book we would also like you to record it so that we can celebrate the range of texts read, whether it is fiction/non-fiction/poetry/graphic novel or comic strip. Our children's love of reading needs to be nurtured as it essentially underpins all learning.

Planned Activities

The Lower Juniors have lots to look forward to this term. Some Year 4 children are eagerly awaiting their residential trip to the Frontier Centre in Northamptonshire. Year 3 have a school visit planned for the Cotswold Wildlife Park and Year 4 will have a visiting Viking workshop later in the term. Alongside this, the children will enjoy swimming and competing in our Sports Day activities.

Thank you for your continued support!

Mrs Jo Allen
Lower Key Stage 2 Leader

