

17<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

How lovely it has been to have all of the children back into school together again, showing such curiosity in all of their exciting learning.

As you are aware, formal assessments are not compulsory for Year 4 children this year. This means that we will not be administering the times tables test.

**Literacy** This term, the children will continue to study a range of genres. We are enjoying our Blue Abyss writing topic and are currently engrossed in a non-fiction unit. This topic links to our Science focus. 'Super skills' sessions continue daily. We focus on key word spellings through weekly Beat Your Best spelling tests. The words are linked to the current text whenever this is possible. Please support your child by helping them learn their spellings - especially the statutory ones that are on our class website page.

**Accelerated Reader** You can see how well your child is doing with their quizzing by logging onto Renaissance Home Connect. Ask your child for their log in details. Certificates celebrating the amount of words read have proven to be a big incentive to encourage children to read more.

**Mathematics**

In Maths, we continue to put a strong emphasis on reasoning and learning through problem solving and investigations. We are working hard to learn our times tables facts up to 12 x 12: by the end of Year 4 children are expected to have an instant recall of these facts. We have a weekly Beat Your Best times tables test and as we approach Year 5 we are having more of a mixed times tables focus. It is a priority for children to continue to learn their times tables at home as this supports all of the other learning within Maths. Please continue to support your child to learn their times tables.

**Science**

In science, we will be looking at the topic 'Oceans and Seas of the World', focusing on classification of animals, animal adaptation, the impact of pollution and the technological advances that have enabled oceanographers to reach the depths of our oceans. We will be working scientifically in our lessons.

**PE**

PE will be on a Tuesday and Friday afternoons this term. Although under our current COVID guidelines children are not required to change for PE, please ensure they bring a pair of trainers with them each day.

**Preview learning homework.**

This term, homework will continue to be set as a pre-learning activity. Please continue to support your child with the tasks that they bring home, as it enables them to pursue a more interesting line of enquiry.

**Spellings and Times Tables**

Weekly Beat Your Best will continue as explained above.

After half term we will be having a science focus so there will be lots of learning and full activities to look forward to. We will be having a special day to celebrate our learning around our Blue Abyss topic. There will be more information to follow shortly on this.

Should you need to talk to me you can either catch me at school or contact me by email. My email address is: [smac@highweekprimary.co.uk](mailto:smac@highweekprimary.co.uk).

Mrs Mac