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*Widening Horizons, Raising Aspirations*

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## **Year 2, 3 and 4 Autumn Newsletter**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back!

We hope you enjoyed the long summer break and that the children are well rested and excited for this new academic year!

### **Year 2**

We are delighted to welcome parents to Donaldson and Rosen and are very excited for the children to start their Year 2 journey!

In our first term in Year 2, for **writing**, we will be focusing on the book, 'The Jolly Postman'. Through this story, the children will be exploring a range of different traditional tales. From this the children will produce a range of different writing pieces including advertisements, nursery rhymes, an informal letter and retelling a narrative.

Within our **Maths** lessons, we begin the year looking at place value of two-digit numbers so that the children have a strong foundation to explore the other areas of maths as the year progresses. Following this we will be moving on to addition and subtraction, looking at different methods using different manipulatives to support their learning and exploring different related facts.

In **Science**, we begin the year with our 'Animals including Humans' topic. The children will learn about the basic needs of humans and different animals and what they need to survive. This will also include looking at exercise, eating the right amounts of different foods and hygiene.

In **History** this term, our topic will be 'How was school different in the past: Schools through time'. We will be making comparisons between Victorian schools to what life is like in school today. As part of this topic the children will take part in a Victorian Day where they will take part in a range of different activities and get to experience what life would have been like for Victorian children at school. More information on this will follow in a separate letter.

Linking with different food groups in Science, our **D.T** topic this term will focus on a balanced diet. The children will get to try different foods before designing and making their own healthy wraps.

In **RSHE**, starting the year with Being ME in My World, the children will discuss their hopes and fears for the year, learn about rights and responsibilities as well as rewards and consequences. In Music the children will learn about different orchestral instruments through traditional tales to link with their learning in English.

**PE** this term will be on Wednesday and Friday and the children will need to come to school in their PE kit on those days.

### **Year 3**

We are delighted to welcome the children to Picasso class as they begin their exciting new journey as Year 3 pupils!

To start the year our **writing** will focus around books about the stone age to link with our history topic this term. Through these books, the children will be creating non-chronological reports and looking at character analysis before moving on to performance poetry towards the end of the term.

In **Maths** this term, we will begin the year focusing on place value. The children will understand the place value of three digit numbers, representing numbers using different manipulatives and ordering numbers correctly. We will then move on to different approaches for addition and subtraction calculations, finding links with the calculations and applying their place value knowledge.

We begin **Science** this year with the topic 'Animals including Humans'. In this unit, the children will be learning about how animals and humans have different diets and need different amounts of different foods to survive. We will also be learning about how humans and animals have different skeletal structures and why these are important for movement and protecting the body.

This term in **History**, the children will be learning about the Stone Age, Iron Age and Bronze Age, comparing the similarities and differences of these time periods and deciding in which they would prefer to live.

Continuing to link with our history topic, in **Art** the children will be experimenting with different media and using different techniques in the style of prehistoric cave paintings. In **RSHE**, through the unit 'Being Me in My World', the children will be discussing their responsibilities in school, creating and adhering to their own learning charter as well as identifying rewards for good choices and why we have consequences when we make bad ones.

For this term Year 3 will be taking part in Forest school. Picasso class will have their session on Thursday. Please ensure you child brings in a change of old clothes that can get dirty in a named bag to get changed into at school. We strongly suggest that they also bring named wellies with them or suitable footwear that can get muddy.

**PE** this term will be on Monday and Wednesday for Picasso class. Children will need to come to school wearing their PE kit on these days.

**For children that were in Rosen class last year**, they will be going swimming on Monday starting the 11<sup>th</sup>. This will continue until the end of term 3. Please can children come to school with their

swimming kit in a named bag. This will be their PE for that day. They may still wear their PE kit to school as it is easier for them to change into to their swim wear.

### **Year 3/4**

We are delighted to welcome the children to Kusama class as they begin their exciting new journey as Year 3/4 pupils!

For English this term we will be reading 'UG: Boy Genius of the Stone Age' by Raymond Briggs. This is a comical graphic novel about a curious boy who would like to wear softer more comfortable trousers! Our writing focus will be using speech and the features of a comic strip.

In Maths, we will be focusing on place value and number including addition and subtraction. There will also be a weekly focus on practicing our times tables.

This term in **History**, the children will be learning about the Stone Age, Iron Age and Bronze Age building on knowledge and skills from last year, comparing the similarities and differences of these time periods and deciding in which they would prefer to live.

In **Science** this term we will be learning about 'Animals including Humans' with a specific focus on teeth and digestion. We will learn about the process of digestion as well as examining different animal teeth and why they have teeth specifically suited to their diet.

In our **RSHE** unit this term, 'Being Me in My World', we learn about what it means to be part of a class team, being a school citizen and our rights and responsibilities within a school democracy and what our rewards and consequences are in school.

For this term Year 3/4 will be taking part in Forest school. Kusama class will have their session on Friday. Please ensure you child brings in a change of old clothes that can get dirty in a name bag to get changed into at school. We strongly suggest that they also bring named wellies with them or suitable footwear that can get muddy.

**PE** this term will be on Monday and Wednesday for Kusama class. Children will need to come to school wearing their PE kit on these days.

**For children that were in Rosen class last year**, they will be going swimming on Monday starting the 11<sup>th</sup>. This will continue until the end of term 3. Please can children come to school with their swimming kit in a named bag. This will be their PE for that day. They may still wear their PE kit to school as it is easier for them to change into to their swim wear.

### **Year 4**

We are thrilled to welcome the children to Morris class in Year 4. We have an exciting term planned ahead for them!

For English this term we will use the book 'The Frog Prince Continued' as the focus of our writing. Through this book the children will be creating diary entries, instructions and write a narrative with a focus on speech.

In **Maths** this term, we will begin with exploring the value of four digit numbers to ensure that all children continue to develop their strong understanding of numbers to support them in all areas of maths. Following this we will be moving on to different written methods for addition and subtraction of four digit numbers.

In **Science** this term we will be learning about 'Animals including Humans' with a specific focus on teeth and digestion. We will learn about the process of digestion as well as examining different animal teeth and why they have teeth specifically suited to their diet.

Our **History** unit 'How have children's lives changed' will explore different time periods. Looking at periods such as the Tudors and the Victorians, we will examine the similarities and differences in the lives of children and compare them with our own experiences today.

This term in **D.T.**, we will be looking at mechanical systems. We look at how they are made before planning and making our own slingshot car. In our **RSHE** unit this term, 'Being Me in My World', we learn about what it means to be part of a class team, being a school citizen and our rights and responsibilities within a school democracy and what our rewards and consequences are in school.

For this term Year 4 will be taking part in Forest school. Morris class will have their session on Monday. Please ensure your child brings in a change of old clothes that can get dirty in a name bag to get changed into at school. We strongly suggest that they also bring named wellies with them or suitable footwear that can get muddy.

**PE** this term will be on Thursday and Friday for Morris class. Children will need to come to school wearing their PE kit on these days.

'Meet the Teacher'

We are looking forward to seeing you at 3:30 pm for our 'Meet the teacher' sessions.

Tuesday 12th September - Year 4

Monday 18th September - Year 3

Thursday 21st September - Year 3/4 (Kusama Class)

**Please note** we are no longer awarding reading stars. If your child has reading stars from previous years, they will need to exchange them for a prize by the end of term.

Yours sincerely

Middle Years Team