

Mandeville Primary School

Issue 1: 8th September 2011

Hawks News

Teacher: Miss Eames
Teaching Assistant: Kasia

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Hawks class newsletter! My name is Laura Eames and I will be your child's class teacher this year. If, at any point, you'd like to have a chat about anything, please feel free to come and see me. The class have already made a great start and I'm really looking forward to a fun packed year!

Here is some vital information for you:

PE lessons are on Monday and Friday but PLEASE make sure your children have their PE kits in school everyday, including plimsolls or trainers. No earrings for PE please.

Homework is given out on Wednesday and must be back in school the following Monday. Please encourage your child to take pride in their work and take responsibility for doing their own homework, with your help where necessary. Any homework not handed in will be completed during break times. This is in preparation for secondary school when homework will be much tougher!

Spellings to be learned are given out on Wednesdays and will be tested the following Tuesday. It is SO important that these are learned and practised every day.

Good attendance is VITAL. Every day off is a day's less learning. Please make sure your child is at school by 8.50am every day ready to learn with all the things they need for the day.

Breakfast Club is open from 8am to 8.50am every day (£2.50 per day). A healthy breakfast makes a huge difference to your child's learning.

In the next few weeks...

In **Literacy** we will be learning about stories from other cultures and will focus on writing in clear sentences, using appropriate punctuation and good description.

Writing targets for each child will be stuck into the front of their literacy book. Please feel free to come and see these at any time.

In **Maths** we will be learning about numbers and place value. This will involve looking at partitioning numbers and solving problems involving the four operations.

Maths targets for this half term will focus on multiplication and times tables and these will be displayed on our classroom door.

In **Reading** we will be learning about how different characters react in different situations, how authors set an atmosphere and how to talk about a text we are reading.

Reading targets will be set during guided reading sessions, and these will be shared with the children in the upcoming weeks.

This half term, those of us in year 4 are lucky enough to be working on a topic called

“A place in which we live”

During this unit we will be learning about science, geography, art, history, ICT, technology and international issues to do with habitats. We will also be learning about PE, PSHE and RE alongside these other lessons.

Miss Eames says...

In Art we'll be:

Finding out about how artists represent animals and their habitats

Making collages of animals and habitats

In Geography we'll be:

Comparing habitats around the world and the way in which different people live

Finding out how houses are built to suit climates

In Technology we will be:

Making models of different habitats

Finding out what are suitable materials for different places

In ICT we'll be using CD Roms and the internet to support our research

In History we'll be finding out about:

the changes that human discoveries have made to the places that Earth's creatures live in.

Look at photographs to show things that have changed and things that have stayed the same

In Science we'll be:

Finding out how things grow in different habitats

Finding out how changes to them can affect the things living there

Investigating habitats found locally

The children will be reading, researching, writing, illustrating, working on their own and working in groups. We will be checking how well your child has learned through particular activities and by asking the children to explain their work, perhaps to you.

The interest you take in your child's work makes a real difference to their learning. Please talk about your child's work with them as the term goes on and let them teach you if they can. If your child has some work to research please help them – **but without actually doing it for them!**

In particular you might be able to investigate what habitats or animals there are around your home or examples of where your child may have already seen examples of different ways of life.

Please feel welcome to come and have a look in our classroom whenever you like! If you have any free time and can help in the class we'd love to see you. I am always happy to answer any questions and help in any way!

Laura Eames