

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 4 Newsletter – Summer 2010

This term we are looking forward to taking full advantage of the weather (fingers crossed!) and our local area, as we learn about habitats. As well as looking at global issues surrounding habitats, we will also be focusing on the British wildlife that we live amongst.

Our English work will reflect the topic as we research and present information on different habitats around the world, persuade others of the importance of a habitat and retell stories using puppets. We will be learning writing techniques that inform as well as entertain the reader. Our spelling lessons and homework have been a tremendous success, and so we will continue to teach spelling rules in this way throughout the summer term. Please encourage your child to write descriptive sentences to show he/ she understands the meaning of each word on their spelling list at home.

As far as possible, we plan to link our maths work with our topic. We will be covering fractions, shape and time as well as revisiting some of our earlier work. We will be planning opportunities for children to apply their mathematical knowledge to everyday problems. As always, we appreciate your support in helping your child learn their times tables; it is expected that by the end of the year he/ she should have rapid recall of all tables up to 10 x 10.

The topic of habitats lends itself perfectly to science activities; adaptation, classification and food chains to name a few. There will be a lot of practical sessions involving local trips into the woods and to Ferry Meadows, which we will of course inform you about. On Wednesday 19th May we hope to take both classes to Stibbington Outdoor Education Centre to take part in a full day of practical activities which link to this science topic.

Throughout the term we will be enjoying the story of *The Wind in the Willows* and our creative work will stem from our deepening understanding of the story and our native wildlife.

In order to take advantage of the summer weather we would be grateful if your child had their PE kit, including appropriate footwear, in school every day. In PE lessons, the children will be learning and improving athletics and gymnastic skills, and later on, cricket. We are considering the logistics of using two PE sessions to teach cycling skills on the school field as a precursor to the official cycling proficiency in Year 6.

Finally, Learning Logs will continue to be sent out every Wednesday, to be returned the following Monday. Every other week will be a maths-based task, and this will alternate with additional maths homework. Thank you for supporting your child's learning in this way.

With best wishes for a sunny summer!

Miss N Noble and Miss V Brittain
Class teachers