11th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back after what has been, and continues to be, such a strange and unusual time. I am really looking forward to another year with the children and they have already settled back in to school life brilliantly. I really enjoyed hearing about (and seeing your photos and videos of) everything you got up to when school was closed and I hope you all had a fantastic time over the Summer holidays.

Here is an outline of the curriculum areas we will be focusing on during the autumn term.

English

We will be following the National Curriculum in daily sessions. We are starting our English with a wonderful book Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth by Oliver Jeffers. This will give children an opportunity to reflect on and make sense of the world we are all living in.

Every morning from 8:45am we will spend time quiet reading. Myself, Mrs Smith and Mrs Keane will be listening to children read during this time and in guided reading sessions. Reading books and reading records will be sent home daily. Even if your child is a confident reader, it is important that you continue to read with them regularly. Discussing the books and encouraging your child to share their opinions will also help with understanding. Reading books and records need to come in to school every day so we can hear the children read.

Strive for five: We will be continuing with the Strive for Five challenge so please sign your child’s reading record each time they read at home. Every time you sign it the children will get a sticker and those who have read the most will get a prize at the end of half term.

We will continue to learn the spellings and grammar for year 3 and 4 and have extra spelling and grammar sessions in the afternoons to revise and review any content that children may have missed last year.

Maths

In maths we will be following the White Rose Maths Scheme which will focus this half term on place value and understanding numbers and addition and subtraction. After half term we will look at length and perimeter and multiplication and division.

Big Maths

We will also have a daily Big Maths Session to help with calculation strategies and to fill in gaps from work missed during school closure.

PSHE and Well Being.

We will focus on mental health and wellbeing a lot this term. We will be learning about keeping safe, healthy lifestyles and healthy relationships. We will also have brain breaks and do yoga and meditation to support wellbeing.

ICT

This term we will be focusing on online safety. This will be an e-aware topic so children can understand how to stay safe online.

PE

We will be taking part in the daily mile and Just Dance This term we will have weekly Karate sessions with Natalie Woodburn. Please ensure your child has a full PE kit in school at all times. Children with earrings need to be able to remove them themselves or not wear them on Wednesdays when we are doing Karate.

Topic

This half term we will study Victorians and the changing power of monarchs using case studies such as John, Anne and Victoria.

After half term we will do a Rainforests topic linked to English.

Homework and Flipgrid

Homework will be set on a Wednesday to be completed by Monday, to allow time for marking. Homework will be focused on Maths and English. Homework will be challenges set on Purple Mash, Flipgrid or TTRS. Flipgrid is a fantastic video sharing site which is password protected so that the videos are only accessible to our class. I will show all the children how to access Flipgrid as a reminder for those who have already used it and a starting point for those who haven’t, and I will also send home user names and passwords for both sites. If you have any problems accessing these at home, then please let me know.

Medical

If your child has developed any medical concerns or allergies please notify us. If your child needs an inhaler please make sure we have one in school, labelled with instructions on when and how to use.

If you would like to discuss any aspects of this letter or have any concerns about your child, please do not hesitate to contact me via e mail helen@roose.cumbria.sch.uk.

Kind regards

Helen Mackie

Year 4