

AMAZON CLASS NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2017



Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year in Amazon class. We hope you enjoyed a lovely summer break and that the children are refreshed and ready for an exciting term's learning. We look forward to working in partnership with you to develop your child's confidence in order to fulfil their potential and instil a love of learning.

It is a pleasure to be the newly appointed teacher in Amazon class and I am really looking forward to getting to know the children and their individual personalities. We have lots to look forward to this term and we will start by settling the children in to a new school year, by supporting the Year 3's in their exciting transition in to Key Stage 2 and supporting the Year 4's to gain further independence as they become budding role models for their new peers. We are really looking forward to the dynamics of a new class, promoting a sense of togetherness amongst all.

Topic

This term's topic is '**Ancient Greece**'. The topic will support our class focus on History. We shall be exploring all things Greek, including; their way of life, the Greek landscape and architecture, artefacts and a wealth of Greek mythology.

Also attached is a curriculum map with details of what is to be covered in each subject area. Please let us know if you have any ideas, resources or would like to volunteer time in the classroom, you are always very welcome.

If anyone has a spare hour on a Friday afternoon from 2-3pm, have a creative interest and would like to come and help in class Mrs Winterburn would love your help as on Friday's we will be developing our art skills and an extra pair of hands is always really helpful. *Please let me know if you can help – Thank you.*

Home Learning

Your child will receive a new homework/reading diary. Children will need their diary with them every day. Inside are full details of your child's home learning. Any help you are able to offer at home to support the work done in school would be really beneficial. We really do appreciate all your support with home learning and if you require any extra information or support please let us know.

Readingopoly

In Amazon class we are introducing a new reading incentive to encourage children to not simply read because they are asked to, but to really foster a love for reading and in turn be reading for pleasure. In order to encourage this invaluable interest, when children have read 8 times in 2 weeks, for at least 10 minutes each time, they shall be able to have two goes on our class Readingopoly board. The aim is to collect as many reading street cards (like you would in Monopoly!) and win some prizes along the way. We are hoping that the children will be eager to collect Privet Drive and Platform 9 3/4, amongst many others! Happy reading!

Teaching Team

Miss Thorne will teach the class Monday – Thursday, with Mrs Winterburn teaching on a Friday. Mrs Austin will be the support for the class that runs throughout the week each morning.

PE & Water bottles

We will have PE predominately on Thursday and Fridays. However, it really helps if PE Kit is in school all week, as sometimes we have to swap sessions. Please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing and footwear to allow them to fully take part, especially in the winter as we go outside whatever the weather. If your child does not have PE kit we will let you know by text. Please make sure your child has a named water bottle in school as remaining hydrated is very important.

Pencil Cases

In Amazon class children are welcome to bring in a small pencil case. Please make sure it is named along with the contents. Once children have achieved the Bronze handwriting certificate they are given a blue pen which we replace when it has run out. Children may bring in a pen from home to write with as long as it is blue and not a biro. Again, please ensure it is named as many children have similar pens. Pencils and other materials will of course be

provided within the classroom should children not wish to bring a pencil case to school. If pencil cases begin to cause a distraction, the decision may be reviewed.

And Finally

I hope to be able to put names to faces at our Meet and Greet Session this week, at the end of the school day and/or at Parents Evenings in October but if you have any questions please pop into school or pass a message on through the school office and I will endeavour to answer your questions.

Verity Thorne