



# Fishbourne C E Primary School

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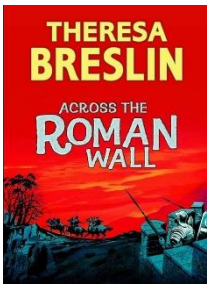
[www.fishbourneprimary.co.uk](http://www.fishbourneprimary.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs N Day MA (Ed)

September 2023

Dear Parents,

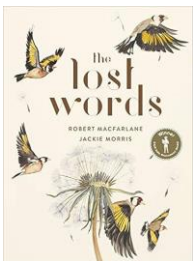
Welcome to Year 4 and the Autumn Term. We hope you have had a wonderful, healthy summer.



We have an exciting line-up of learning experiences this term. After spending a week settling in the children with some activities which have helped them to learn more about themselves, our first big learning experience is a historical one. We will be learning all about **The Romans**. Linking this to our local area, we will discover who the Romans were and why they came to Britain. On Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September we will be visited by Paul Ullson 'The History Man' who is going to share his extensive knowledge of this era with us as well as bringing artefacts for us to hold and draw.

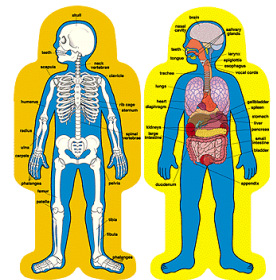
Our English focus will be linked to a book called 'Across the Roman Wall' set in northern Britain towards the end of the Romans' time in Britain. Our end goal will be to produce a diary of a character from the story showing off our historical knowledge combined with our creative writing.

Our second learning experience will have a *Geography* focus. A trip to Staunton Country Park to visit their greenhouses will help us in finding out all about **Rainforests**. The children will learn about the special habitat in the rainforests along with the animals who have made it their home and the impact of deforestation on both them and the world as a whole. This will include drama activities and an end goal that sets out to make the world a better place.



Straight after half term we are looking forward to a whole school learning experience focused on poetry called '**The Lost Words**' based around a book by Robert Macfarlane.

Science is up next with a study of the **Human body**. We will be investigating muscles, bones, teeth and digestion through a variety of practical and possibly disgusting activities! Our end goal will be to write about the journey of a piece of bread through the digestion system.



To finish off this term our Christmas learning experience will see the children exploring Vincent Van Gough's '**Starry Night**' through a variety of art media. Our end goal will be a combination of the children's own interpretation of the picture and an ekphrasis to describe it.

## **Home Learning**

Home learning will be sent home in a home learning book on a Thursday. This will include new spellings for the week, some maths, grammar and reading activities.

Times tables will be tested on a Tuesday.

Spellings will be tested on a Wednesday in the home learning book so that you can see your child's progress. Please do ensure that your child's home learning book is in on a Tuesday in order to give us time to mark this and discuss with the children before the next piece goes out on a Thursday.

A paper copy of these will be stuck into their books and sent home with a digital copy posted on Seesaw for your reference only. For ease of marking, all work should be returned to school in the home learning book.

It is really important that home learning is supported by an adult at home. We will make it clear if a task should be done independently. Dojo points will be given out for homework completed to a high standard.

## **Times Tables**



In the summer term our class will be completing the statutory times table assessments. We will be working towards them in class **but also need your support at home**. Your child will be tested on and expected to know **all** of their times tables from 1 to 12 by the end of this academic year and be able to recall them automatically in timed conditions. Please use whatever works for your child from books, songs and videos to online games to help them learn and gain speed and

confidence in their recall. Please provide a working pair of headphones for your child to keep in school in order to access the Ipads daily.

## **Reading**

Reading beautiful, engaging and high-quality books is so important for children and so it is our aim to really promote and celebrate the children's reading this year. We want our class to feel the sense of achievement from finishing a book and discover the love of following a character to the end of their journey. We have therefore set up a new system to reward children when they finish their books. The more they are able to read at home, the further through their books they will be able to get. Even if your child is a good reader can we please ask that you still listen to them read. Having an adult to check on their comprehension and discuss words they don't understand hugely benefits their progress as both a reader and writer.



Please continue to record your child's home reading in their diary and send this into school every day in their book bag so that we always have access to it.

**PE** - Please do ensure that a named school PE kit is in school. At the moment our PE day is Wednesday. As the weather turns colder, a tracksuit is important to keep them warm as they will be outside in all conditions

**Swimming** starts on the afternoon of Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September at the Westgate Centre. The children will need to dress as normal for school, bringing a towel, swimwear (full costume for girls please) swimming cap (optional) and goggles in a named waterproof bag please. Again, please name every item as they are often left in lockers, on the floor or changing cubicles!

### **A plea!**

Please name everything! We will try our very best to look after belongings but named items really help. Can we ask that in particular all wellies are named?

Our coat area is a very small space! Once PE kits are on pegs, only additional coats and **small** bags can fit. Please carefully consider if your child needs anything else as space is very limited. Please discourage your child from bringing in anything unessential. Toys, teddies, rubber collections etc. are not allowed in school.

If you have any questions, worries or queries please do contact us on our class email.

[Hippos@fishbourneprimary.co.uk](mailto:Hippos@fishbourneprimary.co.uk)

We will check this once daily Monday-Friday between 8am-5pm and try to get back to you as quickly as possible. If you have any last minute information such as a change in which adult is picking up your child please phone or email the office as we may not see your email until after the school day.

Thank you so much for your support,

Mrs C. Rinaldi and Mrs S. Treagust