



Year 3 and 4 Newsletter

Spring 2024



Welcome to our Spring Newsletter. We hope you've all had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas holiday and would like to wish you a happy New Year!

We are looking forward to another action-packed term full of exciting learning opportunities. This term our geography topic will be '**Pole to Pole**'. This topic takes the form of a 'journey' through **Antarctica, South America** and up to **the Arctic**. Throughout this topic, the children will hone their geographical and map-reading skills and will learn about different **biomes across the continents**. We have planned a visit to the **Gilbert White Education Centre at Selbourne** where the children will undertake field work studies and explore Captain Oates' journey to Antarctica.



In English, our theme for the term is 'Exploring our World'. In the first half term, we will look at 'The Wonder Garden' and write our own information text about a biome and a persuasive piece encouraging visitors to a new Droxford 'Eco attraction'. We will then read '**Shackleton's Journey**' exploring his famous trip. Finally, we will write our own poems inspired by the work of Joseph Coelho. Additionally, every Thursday for the first half term, Winchester University will be facilitating creative writing sessions with all of the children.

In Science, the children will be building on their learning in Geography by exploring the **habitats of different animals**. In Art and DT, we will be using a range of artistic techniques to create a landscape showing the different biomes and developing our sewing skills to make a WWII sock teddy ready for our WWII Topic in the Summer term.

In PE, we will be focusing on **hockey and netball** in our outdoor sessions and **gymnastics and dance** in indoor PE. Please ensure your child attends in the correct kit for all PE sessions.

Hambledon Learning Base will begin their violin lessons and the other bases will be learning about music from around the world. In RE, we will be learning about **worship and light as a symbol**. In Computing, we will be learning about how to become vloggers! Finally, in PDL we will continue to learn about **health and wellbeing**.

Helping your child at home

Please continue to encourage your child to bring their reading diary in every day. They are an important record of their reading and are often used English sessions. Listening to your children read is really important, even for confident readers, as discussing the book helps to improve their understanding. Children need to be practicing their spellings and be learning the rules taught in class. For maths, it's a case of tables, tables, tables! Practising them in a variety of ways to encourage speed and accuracy will make maths lessons easier for your child! TT Rockstars and booklets.

Special events for Year 3 and 4

Thursday 18th January- Music concert (for those who have signed up)

Friday 9th February- INSET day

Tuesday 27th February - Runway's End Parent Meeting (6pm)

Monday 19th Feb (Droxford and half of Hambledon) & **Friday 23rd Feb** (half of Hambledon and Meonstoke) - Gilbert White field Study Trip

Tuesday 12th and 13th March- Eco conference (in school classes rotate)

Wednesday 27th March- The Grange Festival in Winchester (Year 4 only- more details to follow)

Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st March - Parents Evening