

**MORGANS PRIMARY SCHOOL
HERTFORD
2010**



Welcome to year 4! As you know the class teachers for your children this year are Mrs. Voss and Mr. Scarisbrick and the Learning Support Assistants are Mr. Hardy, Ms Bull and Miss Viney. PPA time will be covered by Ms Bull. We hope the following information will help keep you informed about your child's education this year.

TOPICS

During the year the children will be studying the following topics:
Autumn Term: Invaders and Settlers and Materials (insulation and separation)
Spring Term: St Lucia and Habitats
Summer Term: Victorians and Electricity

PROPOSED TRIPS

We are planning a day trip to the Celtic Harmony Camp on 3rd November 2010 and a three night trip to Cuffley Camp during the Summer Term. We would also like to arrange a trip to visit a Gurdwara (Sikh place of worship).

PE EQUIPMENT

All children must have **shorts, tee shirt and trainers**, in school at all times. It is important that their PE trainers are not the same as their school shoes as they will be worn on the field outside. It would also be useful if the children could have jogging bottoms and a warm sweatshirt because we aim to have a PE games session outside each week when the weather permits. Children with long hair **must have it tied back** for all PE sessions and watches and studs should not be worn. Children should not wear earrings for PE and we would advise it best not to wear them on PE days, which are **Monday and Friday**.

In the spring term we will be swimming at Hartham Swimming Pool on Wednesdays. Girls must wear a one piece swimming costume and boys must wear trunks not baggy shorts, this is a policy implemented by Hartham Swimming pool. It is swimming pool policy that children are only allowed to wear goggles once they have achieved their Deep Water badge.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

All school uniform must be clearly labelled. Your child needs an art overall or old shirt to protect their clothes, which should be in school at all times. Please ensure your child brings a coat and waterproofs to school when necessary. All children must have a baseball cap/sun hat in the summer term. Please remember the children should not wear jewellery to school, except watches and studs.

ILLNESS

Please let us know if your child is ill and will not be attending school by phoning school before 9 o'clock. If your child requires medicine at school, a form must be filled in before staff are able to give any medicines.

PUNCTUALITY

The school is open at 8.45 a.m. and registration in Queens is at 8.50 a.m. Please, please try to get your children to school on time. It is very disruptive for the rest of the class and the class teacher if children drift in after the start time. We would really appreciate your co-operation on this matter.

WATER AND HEALTHY SNACKS

It is the school policy that the children have access to fresh drinking water throughout the day. This is separate to drinks at playtime and lunchtime. Please provide your child with a named bottle with a sports lid, **which will be taken home every night** and refilled with water for the next day. Please remember that our school has a healthy eating policy and the children are only allowed fresh fruit and vegetables at playtime. It is now school policy that children are not allowed to bring in sweets on their birthday, although we will still celebrate in class.

HOMELEARNING

We still expect children to read daily as part of their homework and we also like to have parental comments in their reading records. Please make sure that children record their own reading in their reading records as well. This helps us to assess their progress and the frequency of their reading. Please make sure that you are also reading to your children to extend their comprehension and vocabulary.

We also would ask you to help your child learn their times tables. As part of our Basic Skills, we will be using this knowledge in various situations and at different times throughout the year. If your child is confident at recalling times they need to be able to recall the division facts as well and they can be extended to multiply multiples of 10 and 100 and use these facts in context. During Year 4 we will be following Support for Spelling a national Strategy, at times children will be asked to do work at home to support this including finding words that follow a specific pattern, using a dictionary or thesaurus. We may also ask children to do some specific research about particular themes linked with work or topics in class.

BEHAVIOUR

Our policy is designed to promote a consistent approach to maintaining good behaviour within the school. It aims to provide a framework within which the children learn to develop good behaviour patterns. We aim to praise rather than punish and to develop an ethos where children seek to win praise rather than attract punishment. It is acknowledged that this can best be achieved by

a positive approach to discipline. The vast majority of children will seek praise and rewards. In the classroom this is given in a variety of ways:

- words of praise
- a reward sticker or mark of praise in a child's book
- display of a good piece of work
- public acknowledgement of good behaviour, work etc in assembly
- Table Points

To reinforce our positive approach we use **FREE CHOICE TIME** as a reward for good behaviour.

Each child starts the week with a thirty to forty five minute choice period. If a child breaks a golden rule, a two or five minute period is deducted each time a rule is broken.

The Golden Rules are published in each classroom.

Obviously not all children will respond or may be deemed to have committed a more serious offence such as bullying, fighting, swearing making racist comments. The school procedure in these cases begins when a child has been given a chance to correct their behaviour and has chosen not to do so. A record is kept in the yellow record folder by class teachers so that over time, improvements can be seen. If a child consistently commits serious offences this could result in a half day exclusion, at the Head teacher's discretion. The Headteacher reserves the right to exclude in the event of behaviour that puts other people or property at risk.

Parent Help

We would appreciate parental help in class and on trips. Please see your class teacher if you are interested. If you cannot help on a regular basis but would like to come in from time to time we would like to see you.

We hope this letter has been useful. If you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. Voss and Mr. Scarsibrick