

## Homework

Children will be given a piece of literacy or maths homework each week. The homework will be given out on a Friday and needs to be returned by the following Wednesday. Children do not need to wait until Wednesday to hand their homework in and can bring it in as soon as it is completed. Any child who does not hand in homework by the Wednesday, without a valid reason, will be put on detention.

Spellings will usually be given out on a Monday and be tested on the Friday. Please help and encourage your child to learn these each week. It would also be beneficial if they could practice their multiplication tables as often as possible.

Children will bring home a reading book and should be changing it regularly- ideally each week. You can help your child by listening to them read and asking them questions about what they have read to help develop their comprehension skills.

## Important days and dates for this academic year

### **Monday-**

- PE (PE kit needs to be in school).
- Spellings given out.

### **Wednesday –**

- PE (Year 4's only - PE kit needs to be in school)
- Swimming (Year 5's only (from Sept - Feb half term) - Swimming kit needs to be in school)
- Homework to be returned.

### **Thursday –**

- PE (PE kit needs to be in school)

### **Friday –**

- Homework given out.
- Spelling test.

## **SIMONSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL** **Dream Believe and Achieve**



**Welcome to Year 4/5**  
**Teacher – Miss Wilson**  
**Teaching Assistant – Miss Cooley**

### The School Day

School starts at 8.55am.  
Lunch time is 12.15-1.10pm  
School ends at 3.15pm

Please be punctual both arriving and collecting your children. If you are unavoidably delayed please contact the school office. An adult will be on the yard from 8.45am and the doors will be open at 8.50am. Teachers will welcome the children into the classroom from 8.50am and morning work tasks will be set. Teachers will bring the children out onto the yard at the end of the day.

### Lunchtimes

School meals may be paid for one week in advance on a Monday morning. Money should be sent in an envelope with your child's name, class and amount. The cost of a lunch is £2.00 and is therefore £10.00 per week. Alternatively you may provide your child with a packed lunch. If you think that you may be entitled to free school meals please ask at the office.

## The Curriculum

At Simonside every Year 4/5 child has a daily maths and literacy lesson. Literacy lessons involve the children developing their writing, reading, speaking and listening skills. The children also take part in drama activities to help stimulate ideas for written work. We will be reading a range of fiction and non-fiction books that link in with the topics for each half term.

In Year 4/5 the children have 4 numeracy lessons with the class teacher which involves all aspects of mathematics work including mental and written calculations.

For one maths session a week, the children have an Assertive Mentoring maths lesson. Here the children work with other children across the school who are working at the same level as them. All staff members across key stage 2 and Year 2 are involved in delivering these sessions, the children are often in much smaller groups in comparison to their normal class. The children are given a short test each week as part of these sessions. If they achieve 'green' standard (80% or above) three weeks running, the children are given the opportunity to move up into the next ability group.

Where possible we try to link topic work in with the other subjects the children are doing. In the spring term, for instance, the children will make Native American masks in art as well as writing stories based on our class novel, 'The Indian in the Cupboard'.

Please have a look at our class blog as regularly as you can – we will keep you up to date on what we've been learning in class.

## **Year 4/5 Topic Themes:**

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Why is Brazil in the news again? Rainforests	Cultural Diversity	Study of British history theme	Earth, sun and Moon	Native American Indians	The Stone Age

## Fruit and Drink

KS2 Children can bring in fruit to eat at break time.

We believe that children should take regular drinks of water throughout the school day. Children should bring a water bottle to school, clearly marked with their name. They will also have access to water in the classroom.

## Absence from School

If your child is absent from school, parents must telephone the school office by 09.30.

- ❖ Contact school as soon as possible to let us know the reason why your child is absent and how long they are likely to be off for.
- ❖ Without an explanation the absence will be marked as **UNAUTHORISED**.
- ❖ Children should not return to school for 48 hours after the last occurrence of sickness.
- ❖ Please arrange to take family holidays during school holidays. Permission will not be given for holidays during term time.
- ❖ Please try to organise all Dentist and non-urgent Doctors' appointments outside of school time. If you need to take your child out of school before 3.15pm, you will be required to fill in a form at the school office explaining the reason for the early collection.

## P.E.

In Year 4/5 the children have two P.E. lessons per week. Please ensure that the children bring the correct kit in at the start of the week. The kit is a plain green t-shirt, black shorts and sand shoes which should be stored in some sort of bag. It would be very helpful if the kit was named. If a child does not have the appropriate P.E kit three times in a half-term, they will be given a detention. Jewellery (including watches and earrings) cannot be worn for P.E lessons. For swimming, they need a towel and swimming costume or swimming shorts which are not baggy and well above the knee in length. (See separate letter for more information about swimming).