

Upper Four Update - Summer Term

Dear Parent,

This document will provide you with information about some of the topics we will be working on this term, and ways in which you can support your child's learning at home. There is also a timetable detailing what additional items your child will need during the week for all curricular activities.

What we will do in school...

What you could do together at home...

Science

This term in science we will be learning about the Earth and space. They will be using scientific evidence to explain how we know the Earth is spherical, explain how day and night occur etc. We will also be learning about living things and their environments. This will involve learning about life cycles, the different parts of a plant and how a plant reproduces.

Read books and websites about space. Maybe visit the National space museum in Leicester; this is a fantastic venue, with lots of practical opportunities to learn about space.

Grow a plant at home, discuss the process. Visit Kew gardens in London. This also provides lots of practical and fun opportunities to learn about plants and different environments.

Literacy

We will continue to develop the students writing skills by learning how to use an extended range of punctuation such as commas, question marks and exclamation marks etc. Our extended writing activities will link to a range of adventure and mystery texts. Upper 4 shall continue to undertake weekly comprehension tasks to develop reading skills such as finding key information from a text.

Encourage your child to write a diary of key events. Try to get them to write about their interests, Minecraft etc. If they don't enjoy recording using pen and paper, use a computer and encourage them to type their stories/recounts. Hear them read, ask them questions about the book they are reading. Encourage them to read a range of texts, newspapers, magazines or comics.

Humanities

Upper 4 humanities sessions will focus on how sources of evidence, such as artefacts are used to find out how civilisations like the ancient Egyptians lived.

Discuss what they know and have learned about the ancient civilisations such as the Egyptians. Encourage them to watch programmes or read books that focus on these periods of history. Maybe visit a museum that has an exhibition that exhibits artefacts from the Egyptians, the Romans or any other ancient society.

PSHE

This term the students will be developing their awareness of the environment. They will be learning about the impact of human behaviour is having on the planet, such as global warming, and actions that can be taken to protect the Earth.

Encourage your child to watch or read news reports about the environmental issues. Encourage them to recycle at home. Talk about saving energy, by switching off lights etc.

Maths

In our maths lessons we will be focusing on the functional skills of using money, time and measuring. We will be learning how to develop the student's problem solving skills in relation to all these areas. We shall also continue to focus on the 4 number operations of + - x and ÷. We shall also continue to use multiplication tables.

Continue to talk to your child when you are at the shops, pointing out numbers, prices and use key vocabulary such as, what is the cheapest and most expensive? Look at bus or train timetables, asking simple questions, e.g. What time is the next bus/ train arriving? Try discussing how you manage a weekly budget, for example how they use their pocket money.

Please note:



Moulton College - Thursday

Upper 4 will be attending Moulton College on Thursday's until the end of the academic year in July. This will give the students the opportunity to develop a specific set of life skills in an agricultural setting.

Community, Work and Travel Skills - Monday, Tuesday and Friday

The students will visit a local supermarket on Monday mornings to buy snack food items, this enables them to develop their organisational and money management skills. On Tuesdays, the students have started to undertake community service work at St Andrew's Church in Bletchley. They are given weekly tasks to carry out such as gardening and general building maintenance work. This activity allows the students to develop their self esteem, communication and team building skills and has so far proved very successful. Now that the students have secured their bus passes, every second Friday we will be going to give them the opportunity to develop their independent travel skills through a range of activities. They will need to bring their bus pass, along with money for a drink if they would like to buy one when they are out.

PE - Friday

Can you please send in a P.E kit, i.e. shorts or tracksuit bottoms, T-shirt, trainers and deodorant. This terms focus will continue on the key skills of teamwork and following instructions in a range of sporting activities.



Home-School Book

We record in the home-school book to inform you of any important information regarding your child, such as any special achievements or any anxieties they may have had during the day. A sheet informing you what your child has been learning during the week will also be sent every Friday (This will be inserted into the book) we will also put important letters in the book. **Please try to read the book every day.**

Please feel free to write what your child has been up to at home, any achievements, any concerns or questions you may have. If your child has missed breakfast, or had a bad night's sleep - please let us know so that we can attend to them accordingly.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information. If you have any other queries, please don't hesitate to contact one of the Upper 4 team of **Liam, Daljit or Jacob.**