

Maesybryn Primary School

Autumn Term 2016

Information for parents of pupils in Classes 4, 5, 6 & 14

We hope that the following information will be helpful and will enable you to support your child's learning at home.

Outline of some areas of topic work to be covered:

Our topic this term will be 'Castles and Dragons'. The literacy skills that we will focus on will be traditional tales, information writing, instructional writing, presentation and role play. Our history focus will be Welsh Castles and Princes of Wales. We will also be studying maps to locate castles and study their geographical position in Geography. Our creative and technology lessons will involve designing and making of models using pulleys and levers, water colour painting and modelling of artefacts.

Information and artefacts, which would be useful:

We would be grateful if you have any interesting artefacts or books related to any of the above that we might borrow, or if you have any personal experiences or expertise in these areas, you might like to share them with the class. Any internet research will be more meaningful to your child if it is restricted to pictures and information specifically prepared for children.

Suggested ways in which you can support literacy and numeracy:

It would be helpful if you could practise times tables 2 to 12, please try to do this in a fun way to encourage your child to join in. We will be focusing mainly on problem solving, measures and the 4 rules of number in maths as well as continued weekly Big Maths. We will continue to send home Big Maths Learn It homework and Beat That questions to practise every week; we appreciate your continued efforts working with your child to practise and learn these facts. Your child will be listened to read every week during structured Guided Reading sessions. We would appreciate your support by listening to your child read their home reader book at home and writing a comment in their reading record to support their progress. Asking questions such as 'what do you think may happen next?' Or 'why did that happen?' would help children in understanding text and aid comprehension skills. You can encourage a love of reading by sharing books with your child at home.

Other information:

P.E. this term will be Gymnastics. P.E kit is required on Tuesday for Mrs Price's class and Thursday for both Mrs Willams' class and Mrs Dobbins' Class.

Reading books, reading records, spelling books and Big Maths sheets need to be returned to school as requested by the class teacher. Updates will be sent via Schoop.

Homework will be set in addition to the regular reading, spellings and Big Maths. We appreciate your continued support to work through homework activities when sent home with your child to consolidate their class learning. Topic homework can be sent in at any time throughout the term.

Snack is not provided in Key Stage 2 but we offer a Healthy Tuck Shop every day for the children to buy snack. A range of fruit and healthy items are available from 10p to 50p. if your child wishes to bring their own snack please follow the Healthy Snack information sheet you have received. We are working together to keep your children fit and healthy and appreciate your support.

Thank you for your support.

If you have any comments on this information sheet, or any suggestions, please contact the Head Teacher, Mr Roberts

These are homework activities for Classes 4, 5, 6 & 14 to be completed over this term based on our topic 'Castles and Dragons'. Please choose at least 2 to complete over this period and bring into school. If you wish to complete more than 2 tasks that is great!

Make a life-sized 1066 soldier! Ask someone to draw around your body on a large piece of paper. Cut this out and add the face and armour using collage materials.

Build a model castle using blocks, bricks, Lego and other junk and construction materials. Learn the architectural features such as turrets, drawbridge, portcullis and keel.

Write a poem based on Welsh Castles or Princes of Wales. Maybe try an acrostic poem or even give rhyming a go.

Castles and Dragons

Design and make a trebuchet. Write up your instructions to show how you built it. Create a table to record the distance that your missile travelled when you tested your trebuchet.

Visit a castle and create a poster/ leaflet to display information and pictures from your visit. Maybe use your ICT skills.

Research castles of Wales or Princes of Wales and present your research to share with your class.