**Meerkats: November 2023**

**Welcome back to Year 4 for the second half of our ‘I Am Warrior’ Roman topic.**

*Welcome back*

Welcome to the second half of our Autumn Term. It is great to see all the children refreshed from their break and ready for another exciting half term in Year 4.

*Book Week*

Prior to the half term break, the whole school took part in Book Week. The week was a fantastic experience for everyone where we enjoyed sharing stories with each other while also creating our own. It was great to see the creativity and enthusiasm the whole class demonstrated throughout each task. Meerkats thoroughly enjoyed reading ‘The Barnabus Project’ by The Fan Brothers and exploring the themes of friendship, resilience, and teamwork.

*I Am Warrior!*

We will be continuing with our exciting topic this half term where we will be studying the importance of the Romans and what they gave to the world. We will also be researching famous emperors and how they managed to rule over so many places. We will also be looking at Roman gods and goddesses, gladiators, and the lives of rich and poor Romans.

*The Curriculum*

We will begin this half term by focusing on multiplication and division in maths; whilst in English, we will be commencing a new novel, ‘The Butterfly Lion’ by Michael Morpurgo. We will be completing lots of reading and writing activities based around the story. We will also complete some poetry work and a non-fiction unit of work on biographies. Elsewhere across the curriculum, we will be enhancing our drumming and computing skills. During science lessons this half term, we will be working through the unit of ‘Living Things and their Habitats’. Mrs. Wheeler will also continue her weekly Italian lessons.

*P.E.*

Our PE lessons will continue to take place on Mondays and Fridays. With the weather getting colder it is extremely important to have a suitable outdoor kit that includes jogging bottoms. Pupils have been excellent wearing their kits to school and using earring tape when jewellery can’t be removed. This should continue this half term.

*Forest School*

The children have really enjoyed their forest school sessions so far. They have been learning about the natural world with scavenger hunts, team games and nature-based artwork. As the weather gets colder, please ensure children come equipped with wellies and waterproofs, as well as extra layers. We will be outside in all weathers (except high winds), and it will be far more enjoyable if everyone is suitably dressed.

*Homework*

Homework will continue to be given out on a Thursday and is to be returned to school by the following Tuesday at the latest. It is vital that pupils complete all homework to the best of their ability as it is an important way of consolidating learning and preparing for the following week’s learning. We have been impressed by the quality so far! Thank you for your help with this.



Additionally, **all** pupils should be reading aloud **as often as possible** and learning their weekly spellings.

The statutory multiplication check will take place at the end of year four. Please help to prepare your children by encouraging them to practise on TTRS **three times a week.**

If in any doubt about the homework set, pupils can speak to a member of the Year 4 team before it is due in for extra support and guidance.

Thank you for your continued support. We are so proud of all pupils and their continued hard work. Wishing you and your families good health,

Miss Vaughan, Mrs Hughes and Mrs Butt-Gow