**KESTREL NEWSLETTER
April 2018**

Dear Parents and Carers.

We hope you had a lovely Easter holiday and did not eat too much chocolate! The weather was not what it has been in previous years but it is nice to see the lighter evenings.

This term we have many exciting things happening in our class. The class will be visiting the Colston hall for a musical afternoon next week, then some of the children will be doing an Archery evening, and finally we all have a World War II activity day on the 18th May.

How will we have time for class based learning … don’t worry we will ☺

**Literacy**

In Literacy we are going to be reading a book The Wizards of Once by Cressida Cowell. This is Cressida’s latest amazing adventure story and for those of you who are fans of “How to train a dragon” I can assure you it is just as exciting and action packed. As this is a long book I predict that it will take us through both term 5 and 6. If you would like to get the children their own copy to read along with the class, that would be great, but it is only out in hard back at the moment and so is not a cheap buy.

The book is about 2 unlikely hero’s a girl Warrior and a Wizard boy who meet and have a thrilling adventure. We will be using this book to look at non chronological reports and learn to write fact files, we will also use it to improve our fiction writing and analyse the way Cressida sets a scene and portrays a character. I am very excited!

**Numeracy**

I hope you had the opportunity to do the maths homework with your children as Numeracy will be focus initially on more fraction work for the year 3’s while the Year 4’s get a handle on decimals. After this we will be looking at money and measurement and later in the term statistics.

**Science**

Miss Bowes will be continuing her topic on sound and how it travels. We will then be moving onto green plants and growing things.

Here are a few pointers you may need for class organisation:

**Water:** We love children to have water bottles as this can help them learn. Please only fill them with water, for health reasons and sticky book reasons!

**Clothes:** Please can the children have forest school clothes and wellies in school at all times as you never know where our learning could take us.

**Read: Please** continue to encourage your child to have a love of reading. Allow them to read at home as often as you can, it really will help their learning. Let them read to you, to younger siblings, to themselves and help them to choose a variety of different things.

**Homework:** Homework will continue to be set by Mrs Bonner on a Wednesday and is expected back on Monday. This homework will consist of a 15-20 min piece of Literacy or Numeracy. The work set will reflect what the children have been learning during the week and it is hoped that mostly they should be able to complete the pieces unaided and be smiling when they have finished!

Spellings: An individual Spelling list will come home shortly, catered for your child’s personal needs. The children will have a month to learn these and secure them into their minds before they are tested. They have many strategies to help them learn the words but may need your help to remind them to do it.

As always please ask if you have any questions

Carol Bowes and Nikki Bonner