



Dear Parents and Children,

Welcome to Terms 5 and 6 at BGPS. We hope that you had a good Easter break and are looking forward to exciting learning opportunities in the last two terms of this year. How time has flown!

### **Curriculum in Terms 5 and 6**

Our third Cornerstones topic this year is **'Emperors and Empires'**. It will focus on the exciting period of history we often refer to as "The Romans". Children will learn about Roman life and Roman Britain, furthering their understanding of chronology, cause and effect and historical sources. It will be launched on 21<sup>st</sup> April with a lively, immersive workshop led by the Nutshell Theatre Company. Children tend to love learning about this period in history and there are many books, websites and museum exhibitions to allow opportunities to learn together as a family.

Our English and Reading lessons will link directly to the history topic, including fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Key texts include the myth of Romulus and Remus, Goose Guards by Terry Deary and The Leopard in the Golden Cage by Julia Edwards. Do ask your child what they are reading and writing about each week.

In **Science**, children will learn about plant nutrition and reproduction, including the parts of flowering plants, water transportation and flower reproduction. In Term 6 children will study light and shadows. They will investigate the phenomena of reflections and shadows, looking for patterns in collected data. The risks associated with the sun are also explored. The focus in **Art and Design** will be on drawing botanical sketches with pencils and water colours and creating botanical prints. In **DT**, children will learn techniques to strengthen structures and use tools safely.

**Maths, RE, PE, Computing, Music, PSHE and Spanish** will continue to be taught discretely.

You will shortly find **Knowledge Organisers** for this topic on the school website. Please do read these and discuss them with your child both before and during the topic. The Knowledge Organisers contain the key knowledge and vocabulary we expect children to know by the end of the topic and in school we refer to these during and after their learning to assess what children know and can retain.

### **Parental involvement: reading, spelling, times tables**

#### **Reading at home**

As we approach the year end, please take the opportunity to continue daily 15-minute reading sessions with your child. This is one of the most valuable things that you can do to support your child's education. Reading aloud is a vital skill and builds their confidence and fluency, while extending their vocabulary. Children should be completing Accelerated Reader books regularly and completing a quiz on that book, either at home or in school. Please sign your child's reading record each time your child reads at home and they will be awarded one house point.

#### **Spelling**

At the start of the week, children will take home a list of spelling words to learn for that week. Regular practice of small groups of words at home will help children retain their knowledge of the key spellings taught in this year. We know that confidence with spelling leads to a much greater confidence in writing.

### **Times tables**

At the front of the reading record, you will find a Times Tables Rock Stars username and password for your child. Children should use this regularly so that they continue to develop and feel secure with their times tables, to support the work we will do with them in school. Year 4 children will be taking the statutory Multiplication Tables Check in the summer term and it is expected that most children will know their times tables up to 12 times by this point.

### **KEY DATES**

- **Nutshell Theatre Company visit - 21<sup>st</sup> April**
- **Multiplication Check – between 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> June**

### **Arrival at school, equipment and uniform**

All children in Years 3 and 4 should enter by the door from the nursery playground. An adult will be on duty to welcome them in between 8.40 and 8.50 each day, when the register will be taken and lessons begin. In the afternoon, Poplar Class will leave from the nursery playground door. Cherry Class leaves from the middle door opposite the car park (to the left of the main entrance).

All equipment that your child needs in Year 3 and 4 is provided by the school, which means that pencil cases are not needed in school. Children will be allocated their own locker, so any bags must fit into their locker. Large backpacks are not appropriate.

Please note that children should not bring toys or fidgets to school unless prior agreement is obtained from Mr Wheatley, our Inclusion Manager.

### **Uniform**

Uniform promotes a sense of belonging and equality. We expect our children to demonstrate pride in their appearance and respect for the school uniform. **Please ensure your child is in correct uniform at all times.**

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Grey tailored trousers or shorts

Grey skirt, pinafore dress

White shirt/polo shirt

White short-sleeved shirt/blouse

School bottle green round neck/V-neck sweatshirt or sweatshirt fabric cardigan

School tie (optional)

Black tights

Grey socks (white socks can be worn with dresses)

Green checked dress

Black shoes

Children should be well-presented and their white shirt/polo shirt must be tucked in at all times. Children must wear sensible black shoes to school, NOT TRAINERS or BOOTS.

Makeup and nail varnish are not permitted. Excessive hair accessories or extreme hair styles or colour are also not permitted. No jewellery except for one, small, stud earring allowed in each ear. Analogue watches are encouraged but SMART watches are not allowed.

### **PE kit**

This term, we have PE on **Tuesday** and **Thursday**. Please ensure that your child comes into school wearing their PE kit on these days. If a child is unable to join in with the PE lessons due to injury, they should still come in their full PE kit as they will contribute to the learning and assessment of skills covered. Pupils with long hair should have their hair tied back at all times and earrings must be taken out or protected with tape during PE lessons. Teachers are not allowed to take earrings out for children, so please ensure it is done before they arrive at school that morning.

#### **PE kit:**

Trainers

House colour T-shirt

White PE shorts

Green track suit bottoms or black skins underneath the white shorts maybe worn for outdoor games in cold weather. Skins must not be worn without white shorts over the top.

All items of uniform need to be clearly marked with your child's name

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mr Ashe, Mrs Bowers Miss Wilson

# Pack your child a **HEALTHY LUNCH BOX**



Choose a variety of foods from each food group

Fruit



Vegetables



Dairy



Wholegrains



Lean meat  
& alternatives



A Healthy Lunch Box



MAKE WATER  
YOUR DRINK



PACK ICE BRICKS  
TO KEEP FOOD  
COOL



USE A THERMOS  
TO KEEP FOOD  
WARM



NSW  
GOVERNMENT | Health

This resource was developed and designed by PA Health Promoters Service, Western Sydney Local Health District, with contribution by South Eastern Sydney Local Health District and Sorensen Shoalhaven Local Health District.