

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been fantastic to have all the children back and to start to get to know the children in Year 4. We hope that your child is getting used to all the changes we have needed to make. From our point of view, the children have settled in really well, are adapting to all the new routines and it feels like they have never been away!

It is strange not to be able to see you all at the start and the end of the day. If there is anything you would like to tell us or talk to us about, please feel free to email us on the home learning email address: homelearning@bickley.bromley.sch.uk and we will email you back.

This term, we will be learning about the following things, amongst many others:

● The Circus!

- **Electricity** – constructing circuits and testing conductors and insulators
- **Place value** (reading, writing, ordering and rounding 4-digit numbers), **addition and subtraction** (adding and subtracting numbers up to 4-digits using formal written methods and efficient mental calculations)
- **Local geography**
- **Grammar, punctuation and spelling – Year 3 / 4 spelling rules** (these will be sent home weekly), using knowledge of **word classes** (e.g. adverbs, prepositions etc) to improve our writing, **punctuation of direct speech**, effective use of **commas** to make our work clearer, different use of **apostrophes** for possession and contraction

P.E. days are Tuesday and Wednesday in 4G and Tuesday and Friday in 4MT. Please continue to send the children in wearing their P.E. kits on these days, with no earrings in and hair tied up.

PG-rated films

As part of our learning about the circus, we are hoping to show the children *The Greatest Showman* this half term, which is PG-rated. We may also show relevant clips from other PG-rated films, which we will, of course, have watched first to check for suitability. **If you are not happy for your child to watch PG-rated films, please email to let us know and we will provide them with an alternative.**

Reading

We have noticed that some children do not seem to have done much reading over the past 6 months, and are struggling to settle to reading sessions in school. Please can all parents encourage their child to read at home. Once children reach KS2 and are fluent readers, it is still crucially important to read, as it increases vocabulary, helps with spelling and also opens up children's minds and imaginations in a way that helps them to learn across the curriculum.

Maths

It would be great if you could support your child's learning by helping them learn their times tables. This is such a crucial foundation for their mathematical knowledge and children are expected to know all times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4. If they know all their times tables, they should practise instant recall and related division facts or missing number questions (e.g. $144 \div 12 = 12$ or $7 \times ? = 56$).

We are looking forward to a happy and exciting year in Year 4 and are looking forward to getting to know you and your children as the year progresses.

From Ms Gurr, Mrs Meloy & Mrs Turner

