



New Zealand Class Newsletter Spring 2018

Class Teacher: Mr Coomber

Welcome back!

Welcome back to a new term, I hope you all had a restful and refreshing Christmas period. Many thanks for the nice cards, presents and Christmas wishes I received - your kindness was very much appreciated. I hope you are ready for an exciting term ahead! Here is a brief outline of the topics and areas we will be covering during the coming term.

Important dates for New Zealand class:

- Class Photos - Wednesday 7th February
- INSET Day - Friday 9th February
- Half Term - Monday 12th - Friday 16th February
- New Zealand Class Assembly - Tuesday 27th February
- World Book Day - Thursday 1st March
- Science Day - Friday 9th March
- Parents Evenings - Tuesday 20th March (3.30-6.30pm) and Thursday 22nd March (6.00-8.30pm).
- Easter Play performed at St Mary's Church - Sunday 25th March at 10.00am
- Easter Play performed to parents in school - Monday 26th March at 2.00pm
- Easter Play performed to parents in school - Tuesday 27th March at 2.00pm
- Last day of term - Thursday 29th March

P.E. - the children will be doing P.E. on a Wednesday and Friday each week. One session will be based indoors (Friday) and one will be an outdoor games session (weather permitting - Wednesday). Our Wednesday session will be taught by Mr Ruff. Please ensure that your children's PE kits are brought in on a Monday morning and remain in school all week. All kit must be clearly named, long hair must be tied back and earrings must be removed for PE sessions. Children should have a white P.E. shirt, shorts, outdoor shoes, long trousers and jumper or tracksuit for outdoors in a named PE kit. We are very short on spare PE kits in school, if you have any spare kit that you would be able to donate to the class these would be

much appreciated. New Zealand class won a certificate towards the end of the Autumn term as everyone had remembered their PE kit. It would be great to win more of these over the coming term.

Homework:

- Reading logs - please ensure you listen to, or monitor, your child reading three times per week and this is signed and dated in their reading log. In Key Stage 2 we will encourage them to write in their reading logs as independently as possible. This will form an important part of my assessment for reading, and is a key dialogue between home and school. Reading logs will be collected in and checked every Monday but should be in school every day.
- Weekly spellings - these will be sent home on a Monday and tested the following Monday.
- Homework - following on from last term, we will be sticking with our new grid structure of our homework. The grids for this term were emailed to you during the last week of the Autumn term. If you have not received this please come and ask me for another one. I will be expecting one piece of homework from your child each week. If it could be handed in to me by the Wednesday of that week, that would be great. If you have any queries or concerns about the homework or its format, please don't hesitate to ask.

Theme for the term - Predators and Prey

Our theme for this term is Predators and Prey, where we will be learning about lots of different types of animals, their lifestyles and their habitats. This topic will be the main theme of our learning across different subjects this term, and we will link our learning to it as much as possible.

Literacy - Here are the main themes we will follow during the term:

Theme
Stories, including adventures - based on The Enormous Crocodile
Information Texts
Half term
Myths and Legends
Authors and Letters
Reports

Numeracy - Work will always be differentiated to suit the needs of the child. Our themes for this term will be:

Theme
Number and Place Value
Addition
Subtraction
Measurement including time
Half Term
Multiplication
Division
Fractions
Shape

Science – Our science this term will be very closely linked to our topic work on Predators and Prey. For the first half of term our topic is 'Animals including humans' where we will be learning about the body and diet of both animals and humans. During the second part of term we will be focusing on plants.

Computing – We will be carrying on our learning on E-Safety throughout this term. We will also be continuing to improve our skills on Microsoft Office by learning how to effectively use a range of functions in these programmes. We will continue to use the iPads and laptops in a range of lessons across the curriculum.

R.E. – our RE lessons this year will continue to be taught jointly by Mrs Burbidge and I as a whole Year 3 cohort. We will first be learning about Gospel before moving on to Salvation. After half term we will also be practicing and performing the Easter play!

Art – we will start off our art work this term by learning how to portray relationships in humans. We will then use what we have learnt to show the different relationships between predators and prey.

Music – during our music lessons this term we will be learning how to create different sounds and rhythms related to animals. This will be taught by Mrs Trott on a Wednesday. We will also be spending time practicing our songs for the Easter Play.

D&T – our DT work will focus on creating our own story books. They will be combined with stories we will write in our literacy work and will be carried out during the week of World Book Day to link to our work on World Book Day itself.

Geography – we will be studying physical geography this term and we will be learning about earthquakes, volcanoes, the water cycle and different climates and biomes around the world. This will be taught by Mrs Trott on a Wednesday.

MFL – The children will continue to learn Spanish once a week. Our units are 'I'm speaking Spanish' before moving on to 'Animals'

I hope this has been helpful. I have an open door policy so if you have any concerns please feel free to pop in and speak to me before or after school. Alternatively, ring the school on 01798 872007 or arrange an appointment at the school office.

Kind regards,

Mr Coomber
New Zealand Class Teacher