



New Zealand Class Autumn Newsletter

Class Teacher: Mr Coomber

Welcome back!

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer holiday and are looking forward to an exciting new term in store! Here is a brief outline of the topics we will be covering and some helpful points to note.

Important dates for Ireland class:

- Stone Age Forest Schools Morning - Tuesday 12th September
- Individual school photos - Wednesday 27th September
- Meet the teacher - Thursday 28th September
- Half Term - Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October
- INSET day - Monday 30th October
- New Zealand Class Assembly - Friday 3rd November
- Parents' afternoons - Wednesday afternoon drop in sessions will run from 2.40-3.00 each week beginning on the 8th November. Please make an appointment with the office if you feel you have any concerns and would like to speak to me.

P.E. - the children will be doing P.E. on a Tuesday and Friday each week. One session will be based indoors (Friday) and one will be an outdoor games session (weather permitting - Tuesday). 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.

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. Now your child is 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 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 - this term the structure of homework across Key Stage 2 will be changing. Homework will be given out each half term in a grid format, with one piece expected in

from your child each week. More information about this will be detailed in a letter accompanying the first grid, and this will be discussed further at the Meet the Teacher evening.

Theme for the term - The Stone Age

Our theme for this term is all about the Stone Age and we will be discovering lots about who lived in the Stone Age and what their lives were like. Our literacy and history units will be based around our topic work and much of our work in other subjects link to the theme where possible. We will be kicking off our topic with an extra Stone Age forest schools session early on in the term, further details about this have been given out separately.

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

Theme
Instructions
Reports
Dialogue and Plays
Half term
Stories with familiar settings
Shape Poetry and Calligrams
Poems to Perform

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 and perimeter
Subtraction including money
Time
Half Term
Multiplication and Area
Division including money
Fractions
Christmas activities

Shape and Statistics will be taught by Mrs Trott on a Wednesday.

Science - We will study two main themes this term. Before half term we will be studying rocks, and during the second half of term we will focus on forces and magnets.

Computing - Our focus for Computing this term will be on E-Safety and how to stay safe on the internet. We will be presenting what we learn about E-Safety using a range of programmes and software.

R.E. - our RE lessons this year will be taught jointly by Mrs Burbidge and I as a whole Year 3 cohort. We will start the time by learning about the creation story and what Christians learn from it before moving on to looking at what the trinity is. Finally, we will learn about Hinduism.

Art - at the beginning of this term our Art will be linked to our class country of New Zealand and our Stone Age topic work. We will then be investigating different patterns, linked to our work in maths on shape. This will be taught by Mrs Trott on a Wednesday.

Music - our music topic this term is 'Animal Magic!'

D&T - our DT work will be linked to our topic work where we will be making Stone Age jewellery.

Geography - in our Geography work we will be exploring a range of different countries and settlements, making comparisons between different places and where we live, and to how and where people lived in the Stone Age. This will be taught by Mrs Trott on a Wednesday.

MFL - The children will be learning Spanish for 30 minutes each week.

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