



# Spring 2018 Class Newsletter Sierra Leone

Class Teacher: Miss Moore

## Welcome back and Happy New Year!

I hope everyone has enjoyed a restful and refreshing Christmas holiday. Many thanks for the lovely cards, presents and Christmas wishes I received - your kindness was much appreciated. We have another busy and exciting term ahead! Here is a brief outline of the topics we will be covering and some helpful points to note.

### Important dates for Sierra Leone Class:

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January** - School clubs begin

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January** - Sierra Leone Class Assembly

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February** - INSET Day

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February** - Half Term

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March** - World Book Day

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March** - School Reports sent home

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March** - Cornet Concert to parents - time TBC

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March** - Parents Evening 3:30-6:30pm

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** - Parents Evening 6:00-8:30pm

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March** - Easter Play performance at St Mary's Church 10:00am

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March** - Easter Play performance at school 2:00pm

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March** - Easter Play performance at school 2:00pm

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March** - Easter Eucharist, Easter Eggstravaganza Activity Day, last day of Spring term

**PE:** This term PE lessons will be on Tuesday and Wednesday. Dance will be taught by Miss Lyons on Tuesday and Games will be taught on Wednesday. Mr Ruff will be working with KS2 classes for our Games sessions this term, and these will take place outdoors whenever possible. Please ensure that 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 PE shirts, shorts, outdoor shoes, long trousers and jumper or tracksuit for outdoors in their PE kits.

### Homework:

- **Reading Logs:** Please ensure you listen to, or monitor, your child reading three times per week and this is signed and dated. 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.
- **Spellings:** These will be sent home on a Monday and tested the following Monday.
- **Homework:** A new homework grid has been provided in the children's homework books this week. This term, we would like the children to complete four pieces of homework in the first half of term and six pieces of homework in the second half of term. Please sign your child's homework book weekly to indicate how much help has been given and ensure that it is returned to school each Monday. The first piece of homework should be handed in on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January. The children should spend no longer than one hour on their homework each week.
- **Times Tables:** It would be very helpful if the children could also spend some time practising their times tables at home each week. We complete times table activities on a weekly basis in class; regular practise will help to develop their speed of recall and accuracy when using written methods for multiplication.

Once your child can confidently recall the times table that they are working on in order, please encourage them to learn the multiplication calculations in a mixed up order and then the related division facts. There are lots of resources available online (games, songs etc) to help the children become more confident with their tables in a multi-sensory way. Please do ask if you would like any more advice.

### **Theme for the term - Around the World:**

The children have already shown great interest in this term's new topic, 'Around the World.' We will be working with the text 'Around the World in Eighty Days' and finding out more about the countries that Phileas Fogg visited on his travels. This will link closely to our Geography units for this term, in which we will be finding out more about geographical features and climatic conditions in different locations around the world.

### **Literacy:**

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

- Stories which raise issues/dilemmas
- Persuasive texts
- Stories from other cultures
- Information texts

### **Numeracy:**

Work will always be differentiated to suit the needs of the child.

- Place value including decimals
- Addition and subtraction including money
- Measures including time
- Multiplication
- Division
- Fractions

Miss Lyons will continue to teach aspects of geometry and shape to the children on Tuesdays.

**Science:** Our first Science topic is 'Animals including Humans,' which will be taught by Miss Lyons on Tuesdays, will be finding out more about the body and diet of animals and humans. This will include work on nutrition and skeletons. We will also be starting to learn about plants and this topic will be continued in the Summer Term.

**RE:** RE will be taught by Miss Turner and I on Thursdays. This term's topics are Gospel and Salvation. We will also be busy preparing for the Easter play which we look forward to performing at the end of the Spring Term.

**Computing:** This term we will be covering multimedia and e-safety. We will also be improving our researching and fact finding skills during our topic work.

**Art:** We will be finding out more about different types of art and artists from around the world.

**Music:** Children who did not take part in the music enrichment program last year will be learning to play the cornet this term. Lessons will take place with Mr Satchwell on Monday mornings. The remaining children will be looking at a collection of classical music from around the world.

**DT:** In DT we will be exploring traditional foods from different locations around the world.

**Geography:** We will continue to develop our knowledge of the world's continents and oceans before comparing climatic conditions in polar and tropical regions with the United Kingdom.

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,  
Miss Moore  
Sierra Leone Class Teacher