

Autumn 2018 Class Newsletter



New Zealand

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 - Wednesday 19th September
- Meet the teacher - Wednesday 26th September
- Individual School photos - Thursday 27th September
- Individual children's photos - Thursday 11th October
- Half Term - Monday 22nd - Friday 26th October
- INSET day - Monday 29th October
- New Zealand class assembly - Friday 2nd November
- Parents' afternoons - Wednesday afternoon drop in sessions will run from 2.40-3.00 each week beginning on the 7th November. If you would like to speak to me before this date then do catch me on the playground otherwise please make an appointment with the office if you feel you would like a more formal meeting at this point.
- Last day of term - Wednesday 19th December

P.E. - the children will be doing P.E. on a Wednesday and Thursday each week. One session will be based indoors (Wednesday) and one will be an outdoor games session (weather permitting) on Thursday. The Thursday outdoor games session will be taught by coaches from Brighton and Hove Albion FC. 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.

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 Tuesday but should be in school every day so adults can hear your child read.
- Weekly spellings - these will be sent home on a Monday and tested the following Monday.
- Homework - this will be given out each half term in a grid format, with one piece expected in from your child each week. I am flexible with which day your child gives in their homework; it will be marked on a Wednesday each week and returned to your child on a Thursday.

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 on Wednesday 19th September (9.00-12.30), further details about this will follow separately. If you think you will be able to help out during this session please do let me know.

Literacy - We will be using a range of texts to help our writing this year and will also be continuing to use Talk for Writing throughout all of our literacy lessons. Here are the main themes we will follow during the term:

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

Maths - 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 |

Science - We will study two main themes this term. Before half term we will be studying rocks and fossils, 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. -We will start our RE learning by studying 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 and the story of Rama and Sita.

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.

Music - our music topic this term is Play it Again. Children will be exploring and performing different rhythmic patterns, including Christmas poems and songs.

D&T - our DT work will be linked to our topic work where we will be making Stone Age jewellery. We will be designing our own items and then creating them using string, clay and shells.

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.

MFL - The children will be learning Spanish each week with Miss Bell on a Thursday morning.

I hope this has been helpful. If you have any concerns please feel free to pop in and speak to me 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