



Thailand Class

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Notes for Parents

Spring 2021

We hope that you are safe and well during these difficult times. Unfortunately with the latest lockdown measures in place we are having to experience our learning in most cases remotely. I understand most of you are having to juggle supporting home learning with your own jobs to maintain, and the task is never easy. Please ensure that you set up your own timetable that balances screen time with activities off screen as well.

This term we are trying to provide you with learning that the children can easily access themselves. The aim is to mirror what the children would be learning in school albeit delivered in a different format.

If you are struggling with any aspects of home learning, useful information and links can be found on the school website. Details below:

https://www.st-marys-pulborough.w-sussex.sch.uk/website/remote_learning_january_2021/530193

Here is a brief outline of the topics and areas we will be covering during the coming term. Obviously some of the content refers to teaching conducted in school which may not apply to you whilst you are home schooling.

Important dates for Thailand class:

- Inset Day – Friday 12th February
- Half Term – Monday 15th – Friday 19th February
- FairTrade Fortnight – Monday 22nd February
- World Book Day – Wednesday 3rd March
- Parents Evenings – Tuesday 17th March (3.30-6pm) and Thursday 19th March (3.30 – 6pm)
- Red Nose Day – Friday 19th March
- Easter Eucharist – Thursday 1st April
- Last day of term – Thursday 1st April

Here is an update of some of the themes and units of work that we will be tackling this coming term.

Overall Themes

This term our topic is 'The Great Fire of London' and we will be linking much of our learning to this theme.

Phonics & English

Children will continue to learn, practise and apply their grapheme/phoneme correspondence (GPC) knowledge. There will not be any formal weekly spellings but do please start to create a bank of phonics word flashcards, which will be uploaded on Google Classroom for many Phonics lessons. Pupils will continue to engage in book talk that is stimulated by questions from the VIPRS friends (Vocabulary Victor, Inference Iggy, Prediction Pip, Retrieval Rex, Sequencing Suki) and our writing unit will now shift from fiction (poetry, descriptive writing and narrative studied in Autumn) to non-fiction. Regular exposure to a variety of non-fiction forms of writing will inspire children's reading and writing development. As we immerse the children in factual writing, they will:

- Delve into a range of historical recounts to learn about the past, which will help them write about the long-gone events of The Great Fire of London.
- Consider the purpose of writing and be informed of the corresponding, appropriate writing style for that purpose. Pupils will look at letters, fact sheets and instructions. To this end, pupils will develop an appreciation of the reader's experience to hone their skill in writing neatly, clearly and in a succinct way.
- Continue to grow their understanding of the importance of applying their phonics learning to their writing and write neat, well-constructed sentences that inform the reader.

Please continue to read with you child three times a week and note this reading down in your child's Home School Notebook if their Reading Log is in school. Please make use of myON for access to many online books.

Maths

We will continue to grow pupils' mathematical fluency of number through addition and subtraction and place value within 50. This term they will also be introduced to measurement, including weight and volume. Pupils will practise their problem-solving and reasoning skills by applying their learning to discrete challenges.

Please continue to encourage your child to use My Maths and Numbots/Times Table Rockstars to develop their fluency.

Science

Unit 1 - Everyday Materials and their uses (*linked with History and DT*)

We shall explore and compare different materials, sorting them into groups and describing their properties. Consider what it would be like if the tables were made of jelly or the chairs were chocolate ice-cream?! Linking learning from the Great Fire of London, we will hone our scientific skills of prediction and evaluation as we design the build and choose the materials for the making of two unique houses.

Unit 2 - Plants (*linked with ART*)

As the warmer weather begins to return (hopefully), we will explore outside and prepare tubs for planting flowers and food. Another magic beanstalk has appeared? Let's record the growth of a bean and look at how it develops to practise and improve our skills of measuring, recording and observing. Can you model the plant with craft materials? Can you label the parts of the plant? We will look closely at different plants and recreate what we see!

RE - Who Made the World?

Exploring the story of The Creation, we will learn about how Christians believe the world was made and the importance of our place in it.

The rest of the curriculum areas will fit into topic with some creative activities with art, design and technology and music.

Other Important Information

Allergies – we are a nut-free school. We politely request that you ensure your children does not bring nuts into school as a snack or in their packed lunches. This includes any food item that may contain nuts.

I hope this has been helpful. If you have any concerns please feel free to speak with me, ring the school on 01798 872007 or alternatively email me on thailand@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk

We urge you to get in touch if you have any problems or concerns, no matter how small and insignificant you think they are. We look forward to seeing the children on Google Meet, which we will schedule each week.

Kind regards,

Mrs Hubble