



Spring 2019 Class Newsletter South Africa

Class Teacher: Ms Frances

Welcome back!

Firstly, thank you to everyone for the lovely Christmas presents and cards that were received at the end of term - it was much appreciated. We hope everyone has had a wonderful Christmas holiday and are looking forward to the new term in store. Here is a brief outline of the topics we will be covering and some helpful points to note.

Theme for the term - Explorers and the Land of Neverbelieve.

We will be discovering lots about habitats and environments, famous explorers and how the Earth has evolved over time. We will study a book called 'The Land of Neverbelieve'. Our homework grid supports the unit of work and has already been sent out.

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

Week beginning	Theme
07.01.19 to 28.01.19	Non-chronological reports - The Land of Neverbelieve
04.02.19 and 11.02.19	Poetry - The Land of Neverbelieve
18.02.19	Half term
25.02.19, 04.03.19 and 11.04.19	Persuasive writing
25.03.19	Bikeability - Creative writing week, target review,
01.04.19	Mock SATS Week

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

Week beginning	Theme
07.01.19 and 14.01.19	Shape, Space and Measure
21.01.19	Percentages; multiplication and division
28.01.19	Fractions, decimals and percentages; Bidmas - order of operations;
04.02.19	Algebra and Arithmetic
11.02.19	Algebra with Fractions - division and multiplication
18.02.19	Half Term
25.02.19	Review targets Fractions: Main objectives: multiply proper fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers, supported by materials and diagrams multiply simple pairs of proper fractions, writing the answer in its simplest form e.g. $\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{8}$ divide proper fractions by whole numbers e.g. $\frac{1}{3} \div 2 = \frac{1}{6}$
04.03.19	Mock SATS Week

11.03.19	Algebra: Main objectives: use simple formulae, generate and describe linear number sequences, express missing number problems algebraically (being comfortable to use letters rather than empty boxes), find pairs of numbers that satisfy an equation with two unknowns, enumerate possibilities of combinations of two variables e.g. x and y are whole numbers and add together to make 12. What are the possible values of x and y?
18.03.19	Ratio and Proportion: Main objectives: solve problems involving the relative sizes of two quantities where missing values can be found by using integer multiplication and division facts solve problems involving the calculation of percentages e.g. of measures, and such as 15% of 360 and the use of percentages for comparison solve problems involving similar shapes where the scale factor is known or can be found solve problems involving unequal sharing and grouping using knowledge of fractions and multiples
25.03.19	Bike ability week: REVISION: Addition, subtraction, Long multiplication and division, application to word problems in the context of area and perimeter.
01.04.18	Statistics: Main objectives: solve comparison, sum and difference problems using information presented in a line graph complete, read and interpret information in tables, including timetables interpret and construct pie charts and line graphs and use these to solve problems calculate and interpret the mean as an average
After Easter	REVISION: Place value of decimals, decimals in the four operations, Roman numerals Fractions, decimals and percentages Revise adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing to recap learning.

Science – We will study two main themes this term: Evolution and Inheritance; Living Things and their Habitats.

Computing – We will be developing our programming skills using Scratch and continuing to think about the importance of e-safety. We will use multi-media to plan and present work through the other core subjects.

R.E. – We will continue our units of work on 'Understanding Christianity' and consider the concepts of 'Gospel' and 'Salvation'.

PSHCE – We will cover drug, alcohol and tobacco education and mental health: healthy minds.

Art – Using our Geography unit on habitats, we will paint landscapes and learn about perspective.

Music – our music unit is called 'Ensemble pieces with notation' and will involve learning how to read basic music and working within a group.

D&T – using our geography and science units on habitats, the children will investigate how bridges have been constructed to withstand forces of nature. We will have a competition to build the strongest bridge!

MFL – The children will be learning Spanish with Miss Bell once a week. This will continue on a Thursday.

P.E. – the children will need their P.E. kits on **Tuesday and Thursday** each week. Ensure the kit is named. One session will be based indoors (dance – Tuesday) and one session outdoors with Albion (weather permitting – Thursday). Outdoor sessions will cover Invasion games with a focus on hockey and football. Children will need P.E. shirts and shorts, outdoor shoes, long trousers and jumper or tracksuit for outdoors.

Important dates for Japan class:

- **SA Class Assembly** – 9am 15th March 2019 (first week back after half-term).
- **SATs Parents information meeting** will be held – Wednesday 16th January 3:30pm
- **Mock SATS Week** Monday 4th – Friday 8th February
- **Bikeability** – wk beginning Monday 25th March (more information to follow).
- **World Book Day** – Thursday 7th March.
- **Reports go home** Friday 8th March.
- **Parents' evenings** – Tuesday 19th March and Thursday 21st March

Homework:

- **Reading logs** – please ensure your child reads to you weekly and this is signed and dated. This will form an important part of my assessment for reading and dialogue between home and school. They will be collected in every Monday but should be in school every day.
- **Whole School Reading Challenge** – We have set the children a reading challenge across the whole of KS2 ending on World Book Day on Thursday 7th March. Before then children are being asked to read as many books from the 'St Mary's Underground' book display outside of China class. There will be two winners (with prizes) from each class: the child who has read the most books overall; the child who has read most books from one of the different 'genre lines'. Other similar books they have read (including the Weald Book Award books) will be included. Each child will receive a passport for a teacher to record when they have completed a book.
- **Weekly spellings** – these will be sent home on a Tuesday and tested the following Tuesday. Attached is a copy of a variety of different ways to practice spellings. We use these at school and are a great way to 'change it up' and find a way that every child can succeed.
- **Weekly mental maths** – these will be tested on a Wednesday. (*Please note – day change)
- **Homework** – a grid has been sent out for your child to choose a piece of homework to complete each week. Please sign homework weekly and indicate how much help/where help has been given or if it was simply too easy! This will really help to gauge understanding and reinforces dialogue between home and school. In addition to the homework grid, SATs homework will come home in the form of a revision pack with suggested schedule. It will indicate which pieces will be looked at each week.

Additional Support materials for at home:

- **Times Tables Rockstars:** the school will be trialling a times tables website where the children create an avatar and earn rewards for getting times tables test and beating their times. All children will receive their own log in (this will appear on a separate letter) where I will be able to monitor their progress.
- **Helpful spelling apps:** to aid spellings we are encouraging children to get involved with some excellent spelling apps and for parents to give some feedback as to which ones work well. Therefore please have a go on the free trials available for Spelling Bee (mostly KS1) and Spelling Shed (KS1 & KS2) and let us know how you find them. If there are any others you can find and think we should take a look at please share.

We hope this has been helpful. We have an open door policy so if you have any concerns please feel free to pop in and speak to us before or after school. Alternatively, ring the school on 01898 872007 or arrange an appointment at the school office.

Kind regards,
Ms V Frances
SA Class Teacher

