

Summer 2022 Class Newsletter

Ireland

Class Teacher: Mrs Benson

Welcome back!

Welcome back to school. I hope you all had a relaxing Easter break and that you are ready for another exciting term ahead!

Please find below some key dates for your diary and a brief outline of the topics and areas we will be covering during the summer term.

Important dates for Ireland class:

- Chichester Festival Theatre lantern-making – Tuesday 26th April
- Bank Holiday (School closed) - Monday 2nd May
- School Trip to Roman Villa at Bignor – Wednesday 18th May
- Half Term – Monday 30th May – Friday 1st June
- KS2 Sports Day/Sports Activities - Friday 17th June TBC
- Forest School – Thursday 30th June
- Parents' Evening – Tuesday 5th July
- Forest School – Thursday 7th July
- Parents' Evening – Thursday 7th July
- Forest School – Thursday 14th July
- Ireland Class Assembly – Friday 15th July
- Leavers' Service – Wednesday 20th July
- Class Transition Afternoon – Monday 18th July
- End of Year Assembly – Wednesday 19th July
- Last Day of Term – Wednesday 20th July

Weekly Expectations:

- **Reading logs** – please continue to ensure you listen to, or monitor, your child reading three times per week and record this in their reading log. 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, including the setting of targets for the children to attain. We have a wonderful library system (Accelerated Reader) and, whilst in school, children will be selecting their own reading books which will remain in school. We are able to monitor your child's progress through Accelerated Reader. Children can also answer quizzes about the books they have read, which provides vital information about progress and comprehension. These quizzes can be accessed at home and I can provide a login ID and PW for the children to access the system. Please also feel free to access books and audio books via the website MyOn to which all the children have access. You will have been provided with a login ID and Password.
- **Weekly spellings** – the format for our weekly spellings remains the same. The children will be given their spellings on a Monday and tested on a Friday. We have lots of opportunity in class to use these spelling words in our writing throughout the week, which helps them understand the context of the words and learn them. Please refer to the 'Blooms Taxonomy' spelling sheet on Google Classrooms which gives you lots of fun ideas on how to learn your spellings.
- **Times tables** – Please ensure your child continued to practise their times tables at home each week. In Year 3 we focus on all the times tables, with the expectation they will learn ALL their times tables by the time they enter Year 4. The school has signed up to a website called **Times Tables Rockstars** for

which you should all have your individual login IDs and Passwords. Please note that this website is designed to **automatically** move your child on once they have shown their recall time and accuracy are in line with recommendation. Any games for times tables would be beneficial, so please make sure you are practising. There are also YouTube songs that could help that you could have playing as well.

- **My Maths, Accelerated Reader, MyOn and Purple Mash are also other websites the children can access to help with their learning**.

Theme for the term – 'Tremors' (3 weeks) followed by 'The Romans'

Our theme for this term starts with 'Tremors'. We will be looking at the structure of the Earth and volcanoes. These geography lessons are anticipated to take up the first three weeks of the Summer term, after which we will then focus on the history of the Romans for the remainder of the term. We will be learning all about who the Romans were, their myths and legends, gods and goddesses, the invasion of Britain and their way of life. Our studies will include a school trip to the Roman Villa at Bignor on Wednesday 18th May, and a Roman Bootcamp where the children will be learning how to march like a Roman Centurion. Should we have time, we will watch some of the recent movie, 'Horrible Histories - Rotten Romans'.

Vocabulary: children will be taught the correct vocabulary to support their learning about volcanoes, the Earth's crust, and the Romans. We try to support the children's understanding and retention by using key vocabulary in their writing.

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

Theme
Newspaper Reports
Roman myths and legends
Diary entries
Half term
Diary Entries continued
Descriptive Writing

Our class book this term is 'Julius Zebra, Rumble with the Romans' by Gary Northfield.

Maths – Work will always be differentiated to suit the needs of the child. Our themes for this term will be:

Theme
Fractions
Measurement (Time)
Half Term
Geometry (Properties of Shape)
Measurement (Mass and Capacity)

Science – For the first half of the term, the focus will continue with Light and Shadows where the children will be consolidating all they have learnt from this unit of work. Following this we will be looking at plants; we will be learning about the different parts of plants, what they need to live and planting some of our own plants.

Vocabulary: will include recollection of key scientific vocabulary relating to light and shadow, and retention of key vocabulary pertaining to the key parts of a plants and flowers.

P.E. – The children will be having an outdoor P.E. games session on a Friday afternoon taught by Mrs Burbidge. We are practising and learning cricket before half term, which includes the following skills of throwing, catching, batting and fielding. After half term, we're practising and learning about athletics – which will include jumping, running and throwing skills.

Please ensure that the correct school PE kit is brought into school and remains in school each week. Kit will be taken home at the end of the week so it may be washed.

All kit must be clearly named, long hair must be tied back and earrings must be removed for PE sessions. Children should have the correct P.E. kit as per the school uniform policy. This includes a white P.E. shirt, dark shorts, suitable sports trainers, long dark track suit bottoms and a jumper for outdoors in a named PE kit bag.

Swimming – We aim to continue with swimming lessons which will be taught on a Tuesday. We will rotate and swim in the morning for the first half of the term and in the afternoon for the latter part of the term. Please ensure the children come to school suitably equipped.
It is strongly recommended that children wear swimming hats, please provide them.
Should your child want to wear swimming googles, please provide written consent for them to do so to the School Office. Children will not be allowed to wear goggles without parental consent.
All children will have their feet checked for verrucas. Should your child have a verruca, they may continue to swim as long as a verruca sock is provided. The school do not provide these, but they are available online and from chemists.
Please also ensure your child is able to undress, dry and redress themselves independently.
Should you have any queries regarding the swimming, please do not hesitate to contact us.
We are taking the children to the pool in groups of three. Mrs Treadwell will continue to teach the children swimming and she will be accompanied by another member of staff to assist. Whilst the children are not swimming, they will remain in class where we will be focusing on other areas of the curriculum.

Forest School – This term we are fortunate enough to have been given some Forest School sessions, the dates of which are detailed below:

- Thursday 30th June
- Thursday 7th July
- Thursday 14th July

On Forest School days, please ensure all children are sent to school in home clothing which is suitable for a day spent outdoors. Long-sleeved tops and trousers are a requirement for safety reasons. Please do NOT send your child in T-shirts and shorts. Keep an eye on the weather for these days and dress your children appropriately. Should the weather be hot, please apply suntan lotion BEFORE school and provide a sun hat. Ensure that your child has a water bottle.

Computing – we will be accessing Purple Mash and learning about emails, simulations and graphing. Should we have enough time we may also focus on databases.

R.E. – In R.E we will be learning about the Kingdom of God which follows on nicely from Easter and focuses on Pentecost. After half term, we will looking at the People of God. Once again, should we have time we may educate the children in Karma, a concept of Hinduism.

Art – we will start off our art work this term by looking at all things Roman. Children will be encouraged to create dramatic pictures of Mount Vesuvius.

Music – We hope to be making use of another scheme of work called Charanga. I am delighted to say that singing will now be permitted in our classroom, with precautions taken to allow there to be plenty of ventilation and children all facing forward. We will be focusing on the song, 'Bringing Us Together'.

D&T – our DT work will focus on the children creating a volcano and a Roman lararium (a shrine).

Geography – we will be studying volcanoes and the Roman towns and roads found in Britain, including our very own Roman road, Stane Street.

Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish) – Miss Bell will continue to teach the children Spanish each week. This term they will be reading the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar and talking about things they have in their pencil case/in their classroom.

Other Important Information

Trainee Teacher – We are very fortunate to have Ms Belassie re-joining us for the Summer term. Ms Belassie will spend the majority of her time with Ireland class whilst she completes her teacher-training course.

School Uniform – Please ensure that your children are adhering to the school uniform. Trainers are not acceptable as school shoes, boys should wear dark socks (black or grey), and girls should not be wearing frilly, brightly-coloured hair accessories (black or navy hair bands only please). Nail varnish should also be removed before attending school.

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.

Written permission – written permission is required annually from you should your child be collected from school by an alternative adult, for example, someone who would be picking up your child from school on an ad-hoc basis. This includes other parents with whom your child may be going on a play date. We do not allow siblings under the age of 16 to collect from school without a written request from you and acceptance by the school. Once collected in the playground, please ensure your children and their siblings do not run around, it is a very busy environment and we want to ensure the safety of all children.

Snacks – I am delighted to say that the whole of Ireland class continues to bring in a healthy snack to have at break times, thank you for your cooperation and support with this. Please do also ensure water bottles are filled with water and not juice, squash or cordial. We are unable to provide children with water bottles in school.

I hope this has been helpful. If you have any concerns please feel free to speak with me, ring the school on 01798 872007 to arrange an appointment at the school office. Alternatively email me on ireland@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk

Kind regards,
Mrs Benson, Ireland Class Teacher