



Spring 2022 Class Newsletter South Africa

Class Teacher: Miss Turner

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas holiday. Here is a brief outline of the topics we will be covering this term and some helpful points to note.

Themes for the term:

Spring 1 - Explorers and Adventurers: We will be discovering lots about habitats and environments, famous explorers and how the Earth has developed over time.

Spring 2 - Exploring Africa: We will learn about Africa past and present and the development of the slave trade. This topic also explores Britain's role in the transatlantic slave trade, the causes and consequences of the European colonisation of Africa and the worldwide communities that make up the African diaspora.

Important dates:

- Year 6 SATs Information Meeting for Parents (Zoom) - Wednesday 19th January 3:45pm
- Half term - Monday 21st February - Friday 25th February
- INSET Day - Monday 28th February
- Fairtrade Fortnight - Monday 21st February - Friday 4th March
- World Book Day - Thursday 3rd March
- School reports go home - Friday 25th March
- Parents' Evenings (via School Cloud) - Tuesday 29th March and Thursday 31st March
- Easter Eggstravaganza Activity Day and end of term - Friday 8th April

English:

The units to be covered this term are:

- Biography
- Narrative
- Persuasive Writing - letter and campaign
- Poetry

Maths:

This term, we will be covering the following units:

- Fractions
- Decimals and Percentages
- Algebra
- Measure: Conversion, Area, Perimeter and Volume
- Ratio

We will continue to timetable mental maths, arithmetic and problem-solving activities regularly.

Science:

This term we will cover the themes of 'Living Things and their Habitats' and 'Evolution and Inheritance.'

Relationship and Health Education: Our units for the term are 'Weighing Up Risk' (Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco Education) and Healthy Minds (Mental health and wellbeing focus).

Computing: This term we will be looking at E-Safety and spreadsheets and looking at the skills of inputting data, being able to sort data and knowing how to keep ourselves safe.

Geography: During the first half of term, we will explore how to interpret maps to learn about physical geography, including climate zones, biomes and rivers. In addition, our coverage of human geography will include types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links.

History: Our focus for the second half of term will be a non-European study about the history of Africa.

RE: Our first topic for the term is Islam. This will be following by Christianity units 'Gospel' and 'Salvation.' These topics will build on the children's previous learning from 'Understanding Christianity.'

Art: In Art, we will begin with creating portraits of Ernest Shackleton and will then paint landscapes and learn about perspective.

Music: We are pleased to be welcoming back Mr Ortiz who will continue to teach ukulele on Mondays.

PE: The children will need to bring their PE kits into school each week. Outdoor PE lessons will be taught by Mrs Burbidge on Thursdays, who will be delivering volleyball and tennis. Please ensure that children's PE kits are brought in on a Monday morning. They will remain in school all week and will then come home to be washed on a Friday. 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:

- **Revision:** As we approach SATs in May, we will provide the children with revision activities to complete at home. More information about the structure and expectations for this will be shared at the Parents' Information Meeting.
- **Reading logs:** Please ensure your child reads to you, or independently, weekly and that this is signed and dated. This will form an important part of my assessment for reading and dialogue between home and school. My expectation is three entries per week. Reading logs will be collected in on a **Monday**. Please encourage your children to complete Accelerated Reader quizzes when reading books are completed.
- **Weekly spellings:** These will be set each Monday and tested on the following Monday. Word lists will be sent out to parents via the class email addresses and spelling books will remain in school.
- **Homework:** Half-termly homework grids will be shared on Google Classroom. Please ensure that your child gets into the routine of submitting one piece of homework from the grid each week.
- **TT Rockstars and My Maths:**
We will be continuing to use TT Rockstars to support our times tables learning. Please do encourage your children to practise their times tables at home on a weekly basis - daily practice of even five minutes will quickly show improvements. MyMaths will be updated regularly with work related to our class-based learning and will enable the children to consolidate the skills that have been taught.

Important Information:

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

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via telephone or via the class email address: sa@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk

Kind regards,
Miss Turner
South Africa Class Teacher