



China Class Newsletter

Autumn Term 2020

Welcome Back!

I hope you have had a lovely summer holiday and are looking forward to the new school year. I am very excited to be working with your children in China class.

Here is a brief outline of the topics and themes we will be covering this term, along with some useful points to note. If you need any further information then please don't hesitate to get in touch with me on china@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk.

This term's topic is 'Earth and Space' and so will be science-based which I hope will engage and excite your children.

Maths

This term in Maths we will be focusing on:

Number and place value, addition and subtraction, statistics, multiplication and division.

We will be continuing to use TT Rockstars to support our Times Tables learning. This has shown significant improvements in the children's fluency and speed of recall. Please do encourage your children to practice their Times Tables at home on a weekly basis. At the end of last term, letters were sent out introducing My Maths, an interactive online program to support Maths learning. This provides the children with the opportunity to link homework activities to their class-based learning and enable them to consolidate the skills that have been taught. Please ask if you have any questions regarding this.

English

In English this term we will be looking at:

- Non-chronological reports
- Poetry
- Short story narratives
- Biographies

Science

The topic we will be studying is Earth and Space and Forces.

Computing

This term as a school we will be using Purple Mash to help deliver our Computing curriculum. We will be covering coding, online safety and spreadsheets.

R.E.

We will be looking at 'Understanding Christianity' and our first topic will be 'What does it mean if God is Holy and Loving?' This unit of work is thought-provoking and the children will be encouraged to link Christian values to real life examples.

Art

Art will be linked to our topic and the artist Peter Thorpe. We will be learning skills such as sketching, painting and pastel techniques.

Design Technology

In keeping with our Science this term, we will be looking at designing re-entry vehicles and parachutes which we can relate to forces.

Music

This term, we will be studying one of Britain's most celebrated composers – Gustav Holst. We will be inspired by his masterwork 'The Planet Suite', to look at contrast and dynamics. The children will have the opportunity to perform their own compositions.

P.E.

The children will have two P.E. sessions a week, one Dance lesson taught by me and an outdoor session delivered by Mrs Burbidge on a Wednesday, which will be athletics and then cricket after half term.

Please remember that the correct P.E kit should be in school at all times and that children need to have outdoor trainers. No jewellery is to be worn, please ensure that all earrings are removed on P.E days if the children are not able to remove them themselves. Please note that trainers are for P.E only and not to be worn as part of the day-to-day school uniform without prior consent from Mrs Copus.

Spanish

Senora Vanieris will continue to teach the children Spanish once a week.

RHE

Relationship and Health Education is now statutory in Primary schools. This will be delivered once a week on a Thursday. This term we will cover 'growing up and changing'. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this then you are welcome to contact me.

Please note: We are a NUT-FREE SCHOOL.

A 'Homework Grid' will be provided to the children each term which allows them choice in the tasks that they complete. We find that it also encourages them to be independent in their work. The expectation is still that one piece of homework will need to be completed every week. You will have a homework book so please put the homework in the book but take a photo or scan the piece of learning and send it to china@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk

How can you help?

Please ensure that your child learns their weekly spellings and encourage them to learn times tables. It really does help! Children will be given new spelling lists each Monday. They will stick their word lists in their orange spelling books which will remain in school. Spelling word lists will then be emailed to you so the children can practise their spellings at home. Tests will then be completed in their orange books the following Monday.

As part of their weekly homework the children must read for at least 10 minutes, 3 times a week at home. This can be independently, but if you can find time to read and discuss your child's book with them then please do. The reading log needs to be handed in on a Monday to be marked and we will return it on a Wednesday as we have to quarantine the books for 48 hours.

If you would like your child to walk home by themselves then we will require a written request submitted to the School Office. Should you require your children to carry a mobile phone when in school they will be asked to submit it to the Office upon arrival. It will be stored carefully and returned to the child at the end of the day. Please note that St Mary's cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage to the mobile phones.

How can I help?

I am very happy to hear from any parent who may have a concern or who needs any further information. I will be setting up communication via Class Dojo. Please do sign up as I often post notices and pictures of the children's learning. It is a secure site only seen by the parents and carers of our class (further details on this will follow). If you wish to send me an email then you can contact me through the class email address china@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk If you would like to speak in greater depth you may also make an appointment via the School Office to speak to me on the phone or through Zoom.

Thank you in advance for your support and I look forward to getting to know you and your children as the year progresses.

Kind regards,

Mr Coomber