



# Summer 2021 Class Newsletter New Zealand

Class Teacher: Miss Heasman

## 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!

Fingers crossed we will have another full term in school without having to tackle home learning again.

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 New Zealand class:

- Bank Holiday (School closed) - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May
- Half Term – Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June
- KS2 Sports Day - Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June TBC
- Reports Home – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June
- Parents Evening – Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June
- Parents Evening – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July
- Leavers Service – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July TBC
- New class letters Home – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July
- School Disco – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July TBC
- Class Transition Afternoon – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July TBC
- End of Year Assembly & Awards – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July TBC
- Last Day of Term – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

### Weekly Expectations:

- **Reading logs** – please continue to ensure you listen to, or monitor, your child reading three times per week and that this is signed and dated 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. Children are requested NOT to bring books to school from the home during the pandemic. We have a wonderful library system up and running and, whilst in school, children will be selecting their own reading books which will remain in school. A procedure has been put in place to ensure books returned and borrowed from the library are sanitised properly. Please 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 in which we deliver the weekly spellings has altered. The reason for this is because we were seeing the children learn their spellings off by heart but then dismissing them and not actually retaining this knowledge to repeat in their writing. As well as having a weekly spelling test the children are encouraged to use their spellings in their writing. A spelling test may be conducted on the Friday of the week. Please refer to the 'Bloom's 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 continues to practise their times tables at home each week. In Year 3 we focus on all the times tables, with the aspiration 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** of 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 that 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 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 – The Romans**

Our theme for this term is the Romans. We will be learning all about who the Romans were, myths and legends, gods and goddesses, the invasion of Britain and their way of life. On Wednesday we will be launching our new topic with a Roman Bootcamp in the afternoon where the children will be learning how to be a Roman Centurion. Should we have time we will watch some of the recent movie, 'Horrible Histories - Rotten Romans'.

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

<b>Theme</b>
Roman myths and legends
Diary entries
<b>Half term</b>
Diary Entries continued
Reports

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

<b>Theme</b>
Fractions
Measurement (Time)
<b>Half Term</b>
Geometry (Properties of Shape)
Measurement (Mass and Capacity)

**Science** – For the first half of the term, the focus will be on plants; we will be learning about the different parts of plants, what they need to live and planting some of our own plants. We will then move on to light and will investigate how light is reflected and how different shadows can be formed.

**P.E.** – The children will be having an outdoor P.E. games session on a Thursday morning taught by Mrs Burbidge.

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

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, all in a named PE kit bag.

**Swimming** – We aim to continue with swimming lessons which will be taught on a Tuesday morning. Please ensure the children come to school suitably equipped. This year 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 Mrs Shepherd. Whilst the children are not swimming, they will remain in class where we will be focusing on other areas of the curriculum.

**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 begin our art work this term by looking at all things Roman. The 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 the 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 Roman lararium.

**Geography** – we will be studying the Roman towns and roads found in Britain.

**Modern Foreign Languages (Spanish)** – Senorita Bell will continue to teach the children Spanish each week.

### **Other Important Information**

**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 do not bring nuts into school either 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 by you and acceptance from the school. Once collected in the playground, please ensure your children and their siblings do not run around and mix with other families beyond social distancing.

**Drop off & Pick up times** – please do your utmost to ensure your children are dropped off and picked up at the designated times. We do realise that some of the children have siblings at the school who have different timings, however the staggered start and end times are in place to try to continue our safety as we steer our way out of the pandemic.

**Snacks** – I am delighted to say that the whole of New Zealand 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 [nz@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk](mailto:nz@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk)

Kind regards,  
Miss Heasman  
New Zealand Class Teacher