



## Welcome to our Autumn Term newsletter.

This term's topic is "Playing at Palaeontologists" whereby we will research the formation of and changing over time of rocks and fossils, their importance to geological understanding and similarly the importance and influence of (relatively) local hero, Mary Anning.

To support this learning we have a great day planned for Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April and whilst the details will be provided in a separate letter, we do need two parent helpers to enable the trip to go ahead. Please come and see Mrs Marsh or myself ASAP if you could help as we need to firm up the booking by Friday.



Our writing inspiration this first half term will come from both our Topic and also some well-known Traditional tales which will use to inspire the children to demonstrate their ability to write technically accurately across a range of genres. As we have not been moderated for writing for the past two years, it is almost guaranteed we will be this summer; therefore having a range of work to share with moderators is of paramount importance.



Whilst we will continue to practice arithmetic using the 4 main operations, by this stage in the year the children should be secure at their age related level and therefore we look to focus more on multi-step problem solving. ***If your child is not secure in their times tables, related inverse facts (division) or number bonds, it is imperative you take time to practice at home.***

On a Friday the children will focus on developing fluency in relation to fractions (+, -, x and ÷), decimals and percentages.

***Please don't hesitate to speak to me regarding these expectations as I am keen to help in any way I can and suggest ways in which you can help your child reach 'age related expectations' by the end of the year.***



Science will be taught by on a weekly basis, with continued focus on developing investigative skills and methods of scientific enquiry. We will also focus on forces and link to our "Palaeontology" topic - rocks, tectonic plate movement as well as volcanoes and earthquakes.

### Homework this term...

#### **SATS Busters – Tuesdays 2 x 10 minutes tests per booklet (6 per week)**

As we approach the tests spending a little more time supporting with your child with their SATS Buster books will help greatly – Mrs Marsh or I are also available should you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's revision.

#### **Spellings**

Children will receive spelling lists and rules to learn. Spellings will be **tested on a Friday morning**.

#### **Reading logs**

**Monday** – reading logs MUST be signed by an adult.

#### **Classic text reading**

**challenge** – Forms with highlighted texts read or listened to due in on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April to be included in the non-uniform draw.

#### **Maths**

Out each Thursday, to be returned by the following Tuesday.

#### **Brain barometer – x-tables**

Children will be **tested on times tables (up to 12x12) on a weekly basis** and are expected to make progress each week having practiced.



## French/Computing

The children will continue to learn French with Mrs Pickford each Wednesday and will begin this term by describing and giving opinion on our local area and home. They will then move onto expressing what they do at home and what chores/jobs we can do to help. Year 5 &6 will be experimenting with some conditional tense phrases and Year 6 will be deepening their understanding of sentence elements and how to manipulate grammatical elements. Later in the term they will practice some basic future tense phrases to express our plans for the summer holidays.

Computing will be expertly taught by Mr Chaffey each Wednesday morning. Children will be using the Touchcast app, we will be creating news reports, including using the teleprompter and green screening techniques.



## P.E.

**Please ensure your child has their PE kit with them at all times.** The children will normally have PE on a Tuesday afternoon, however if the weather is poor, I will endeavour to swop the session to an alternative afternoon, hence the importance of having suitable kit at School every day. We will continue to swim on a Friday afternoon. There will also be various sporting fixtures, tournaments and skills sessions during the term for those children who are interested.

**URGENT PLEA - We are desperate for parent helpers to accompany the class to swimming on a Friday afternoon. If you could volunteer for just one session, we would be very grateful. Simply let Mrs Haysham in the office or myself know.**



## Music/Drama

The children will continue to have their weekly singing assembly. There will also be opportunities to audition for parts in the Summer play - watch this space.



## Art

Due to the many cut-backs forced upon Schools, this year the art curriculum will be covered as part of our topic sessions.

## Residential

Rock and Rapids is all booked and looks fantastic, but if you have any queries, please don't hesitate to ask.

Thanks again for your continued support - we are all really excited about the term ahead!

**If you have any questions at all, please speak to Mr Day, Mrs Marsh or Mr Arnold**