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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the start of Summer term! I hope you all had a lovely Easter.

As this is the first opportunity I have had to write to you, I would like to take the opportunity to say it is an absolute pleasure to be teaching this class for the rest of the year. I have been shown many of the classes routines by Mrs Scott and aim to keep many of them the same for the rest of the year, in order to minimise disruption.

As you will be aware, we are still checking the children's reading diaries each morning and encourage the children to select their own reading books. We still ask that the children read to an adult at least three times a week in order to support their comprehension. Children who achieve this are still entered into a prize draw that will be drawn at the end of each half term. I am continuing the bonus entries into the prize draw for every book review written for any book the children complete.

Swimming is continuing this half-term, following the same routine of being on a Monday afternoon for a 1-hour session. The first session back will be on the 23rd April. Also P.E will continue to be taught on a Wednesday afternoon. Please ensure that P.E kits are in school as often as possible, in case P.E sessions need to be moved around.

Homework will continue to be handed out on a Wednesday – starting from the 25th April – and we ask that it is returned before the following Wednesday. For further development, the focus of homework remains as reading comprehension. The aim of the reading comprehension is that the children should be able to complete the reading and answer questions in under 20 minutes – whilst still answering in full sentences and taking care with their spellings and handwriting.

We will also continue to work with the children on their maths challenges and times tables. The national Curriculum expectations are that, by the end of year 3, children should know their 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables. Many children are still struggling with their times tables and must regularly practise them at home in order to support the work we are doing in school.

Our topic this term is 'Extreme Earth', during which we will be learning about our planet and the power of nature. I have included a topic plan on the back of this letter for more information.

If you have any further questions about this term, please visit the office or come to the classroom before or after school.

Mr Grainger



English

This term we will start by reading and writing Extreme Earth poems. We will then be reading and discussing a selection of fairy tales before story mapping and learning the tale of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. We will learn about the features of a good fairy tale before we invent a new one by changing parts of the original tale.

Later in the term we will look at play scripts, explanations and classic poems.

In our SPAG lessons we will be revising our work on verb tenses, conjunctions for time and cause and the use of independent and subordinate clauses.

We will also be continuing to develop our reading skills – focusing on our comprehension and ensuring that we fully understand the texts that we are reading. We will be focusing on developing our skills of deduction and inference as well as continuing to expand our vocabulary by discussing new and unfamiliar words within the text.

Art and Design

Our art work is going to be directly linked to our topic. We will be looking at the artwork of Katsushika Hokusai. After looking at examples of his artwork and discussing the techniques that he used we will go on to imitate his style and create our own master pieces.

Music

We will be looking at rhythm and learning how to rap some nursery rhymes/fairy tales.

PE

We will have a PE session on a Wednesday afternoon in addition to our swimming session on a Monday afternoon.

Science

For the first half term we will be learning all about rocks and fossils. We will be classifying different types of rock and what they're used for, looking at how fossils are formed, and draw conclusions on the reasons for variation between soils.

After the half term break we will move on to our plants unit. Through practical activities we will learn to identify and name the different parts of a plant, what they need in order to grow well and how they transport water. In addition, we will find out about the life cycle of a plant.

Maths

This term we will cover and revise a wide range of different areas of numeracy, including: place value, problem solving, mental addition and subtraction, written methods for calculations, multiplication, division, fractions, data handling, measurements and shape.

As a class, we will achieve our objectives through both written, mental, group and independent work.

In addition to our everyday maths lessons we will be given many opportunities to practise our knowledge of multiplications through a range of different games.

As well as developing our maths skills these sessions will also help us to develop our knowledge and our use of mathematical vocabulary.

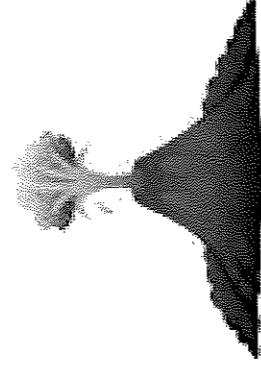
Computing

In our Computing lessons we are going to become presenters. Together we will make short narrated videos of ourselves using a range of digital devices.

Design and Technology

Through a variety of creative and practical activities we will design and make our own pop up books. These will link to our work in English.

Extreme Earth



History/Geography

Along with investigating what is beneath our feet during science, our work this term will have a geography focus. We will learn all about volcanoes, how they are created, where they are found, what makes them erupt and how they affect people's lives. We will also find out more about mountain ranges, earth quakes, tsunamis and tornadoes.

Year 3 Summer 2018