

# India and Kenya Newsletter

## Autumn 1 - 2019

We hope you all had an enjoyable summer and we welcome you back. We are looking forward to a new and exciting school year, full of successes. Our topic this term is 'Rock of Ages'. This will be covering 'The Stone Age' within our topic and 'Rocks and Soil' in our science lessons.

Our English and topic work is now called '**significant learning**' which means that there will be lots of cross curriculum links, giving children opportunities to develop their learning further by embedding the skills they learn in all aspects of their development.

We will be continuing with our spelling programme from the third week of this term. Children will have one dedicated spelling session each day and will be working in groups with children at a similar level. The day/s of each child's spelling test will differ according to their spelling group.

Each child will be in a reading group where they will read with an adult once a week. Your child will receive a comment from an adult at least once a week.

Throughout the year children will be learning grammatical terms and have handwriting practise sessions.

Children will use grammatical vocabulary including nouns, verbs, adjectives, conjunctions, contractions, clauses, phrases and adverbs. Alongside this, children will learn to use a range of punctuation including full stops, capital letters, commas, inverted commas (speech marks), and apostrophes.

Children will be extending their knowledge from year two by learning to count in 4, 8, 50 and 100. They will begin to work with 3 and 4 digit numbers and learn to count through the 100 boundary. We will also be ensuring children learn their mental calculation strategies e.g. doubling, halving, bonds, multiplication and division.

In year 3 the children will begin to learn their times tables and will be tested regularly. They also learn the very important skill of telling the time using both analogue and digital clocks. We will also be looking at the twenty-four-hour clock. Please support your child at home with these as this will give them confidence and encouragement.

PE will be on a Tuesday, weather permitting. Please ensure children have their full PE kit in school every day, which consists of plimsolls, shorts and a T-shirt. The children should also bring in an old tracksuit or joggers/sweatshirt so that they can go outside in the

colder weather. Children with medium-long hair must be able to tie their hair back both in class and for PE lessons. **Earrings need to be removed on this day otherwise the children are unable to take part.**

This half term, celebration assembly will focus on children reading regularly and showing a passion for reading. The second certificate will be awarded for children showing a caring attitude towards their learning and each other. Please try and encourage this at home.

Children will be expected to read daily with comprehension questions and practise their times tables using TT rockstars. Spellings will go home on a Wednesday and they will be tested the following Wednesday. Some children may have some homework from their RWI lesson too. Homework will be set half termly and will involve a project based homework linked to our significant learning topic. Please support your child with this homework so they are able to discuss their learning at home in school and vice versa. This allows children to integrate their learning at a deeper level.

### REMINDER

Please ensure that children bring their reading diaries in to school every day. Children are expected to read daily with an adult at home to maximise their development. Please always sign/comment when your child has read so we can monitor and reward when necessary.

Children must have a water bottle in school every day. A healthy snack or bottle of water can be purchased daily from the snack trolley at break time, the cost of this is 25p per item.

If you wish to speak with one of the teachers before school, please go to the school office. We are unable to speak to parents in the classroom before school. Alternatively, write a note or message in your child's diary and we will attempt to contact you during the day or directly after school. Please do not come into the cloakroom or classroom before school starts.

At 8:30am children will be working on their literacy/maths learning/next steps therefore we would ask that your child arrives at school promptly.

If you have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to come and ask.

Just a reminder that Year 3 also have a trip booked to the Iron age hut in Hadleigh on the 10<sup>th</sup> October. Please could you return all permission slips asap so we can arrange this accordingly, many thanks.

Mrs Baillieul and Mrs Hopkins