



Hazel Class Newsletter

Spring 2024



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back after the Christmas break and Happy New Year! We hope you enjoyed spending time with your families during the holidays.

Our term has started with Science Week, and we have been exploring volcanoes and how igneous rock is formed. We have investigated how some materials flow more quickly when heated and linked this to magma and lava as it cools.

We will also be investigating the properties of magnets and forces, through activities, experiments and games.

We have some interesting topics planned for this term, starting with learning more about how the Romans changed Britain and their significance in history. We have arranged a visit to Fishbourne Roman Palace to look at artefacts and to participate in some workshops to give us a flavour of Roman life.

We will discover what happened at Pompeii and use our knowledge of volcanoes to write creative stories linked to our history work.

After the half term break we will be learning about Humans and Animals - Bones and Skeletons. We will start by learning names for parts of the body and move on to finding out some of the scientific names for the bones. We will compare human and animal skeletons and how bones and muscles work to support us. Our science work will also look at keeping healthy. Linked to this work will be our Design and Technology work on healthy eating and types of food.

English

We will continue to improve our knowledge of grammar, punctuation and vocabulary through our writing about Science, History and also within our reading. The class has really enjoyed reading longer books and texts this year and we will continue to build this love of reading with new titles this term as well as looking at some Roman myths.

Reading remains an important area and we welcome your support in reading daily at home with your child. It is really helpful to us if you record when you hear your child read in their reading journal. Please encourage them to ask and answer questions as they read their books as this will help them when they take the quiz for their book at school.

We will be concentrating on learning spelling patterns, which children should then use in their writing. We aim to develop children's recognition and spelling of commonly used words (Year 3/4 common exception words). There are some fun games online which can help with spelling and I often put the links for these alongside homework.



Maths

Please continue to support your child's maths by learning times tables and number facts. You have received a login to Times Table Rockstars. Here your child can build their fluency and speed with tables in a fun way at home and we have weekly updates on how each class performs on this website. Some of our class are improving their skills really well and linking their knowledge to maths work in class as a result. Tables will be a focus of many of our maths topics this term and we will have regular checks on how children are progressing. Fluency and the ability to recall number facts quickly is vital in their maths learning. In Year 4 the children will complete the national times tables assessment, so learning them now will leave plenty of time to rehearse and consolidate knowledge for this.

Homework

Reading, spellings, times tables and learning number facts will continue to be very important aspects of the support you can give your child in their learning.

Work on TT Rockstars is expected daily for all children and work on Numbots will also strengthen their number knowledge and skills.

Mymaths work should help children to consolidate and extend their classwork and may be completed over a number of weeks. This work will reinforce what we have done in class. We always revisit our maths topics to enable children to recall and improve on previous work.

I will continue to set topic homework on Seesaw. These activities will support class work and children should aim to complete these tasks within a week or by the given date. Don't forget the termly homework grid sent last term which suggests a number of optional homework activities linked to our topic. We expect at least one of these to be completed each half term.

PE this year

Our PE sessions are timetabled for Mondays and Wednesdays this term. Children should continue to come to school dressed in school PE kits so that they are ready, and don't forget warmer clothes, trainers and a change of socks for outdoor sessions (usually Mondays). Please remove earrings and tie up long hair on these days.

As our uniform policy states, Fit Bits and large watches are NOT allowed in school .

Looking Forward

If you wish to discuss anything regarding your child or you have any worries, then please make an appointment to see me through the Office or to have a phone conversation.

Mrs Terry and I are looking forward to another exciting and interesting term with Hazel Class.

Mrs Reynolds