

Alfriston School

North Road
Alfriston,
Polegate,
East Sussex, BN26 5XB



E-Mail: office@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk
Website: www.alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk

Telephone: (01323) 870203

Headteacher: Mrs Lindsey Hudson BA (Hons)

Class: Sapphire (Year 3 & 4)

November 2020

Teacher: Mrs Farror

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Young

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 2. This is another long term but as all the routines, which felt so new and different in September, are now good habits and we look forward to being able to settle back into the swings of things as soon as possible.

As usual, we have lots of learning to cover this term and I have high expectations of behaviour and equally high expectations of progress.

Equipment

A reminder that all equipment / resources are provided for the children when at school and these are regularly cleaned to meet current hygiene requirements. The children must not bring anything into school other than their school banded reading book, their reading record booklet, their snack and their lunch (if required), their water bottle drink and appropriate outer layers. They must not bring in a pencil case or a P.E kit.

As last term, our home learning resources are to be accessed through the eSchools learning platform. The 'Home Learning' section of this letter will provide further details on this.

Learning Journey topic

This term our topic is 'Meet The Flintstones'. This is a combined English and History topic which will inform learning across the curriculum. Our class book is 'Maroo of The Winter Caves' written by Ann Turnbull.

English

In English this term, alongside our Learning Journey, we will be using our core 'rich' text to lead into our writing and the children will think about ways to effectively plan their written work.

We will also have regular spelling, grammar and punctuation sessions. We will be supporting children as they develop their skills and will be working towards extended writing pieces each week.

We will continue with our focus on spelling both the 'high frequency words' and the 'common exception words' and we will look at spelling patterns and rules as well as encouraging children to learn the spelling of the words which they use regularly to support their writing.

As usual all the children will work through individualised spelling lists as appropriate.

Reading is a vitally important skill in developing every aspect of literacy. We build numerous opportunities to hear your child read throughout the school day in every lesson, including some one-to-one reading opportunities with those children who we feel would most benefit.

The reintroduction of the monitored reading record booklets has been incredibly successful so thank you so much for your support with this. As part of our home learning expectations, we ask that your child reads at home at least 5 times a week. We request that the reading record booklets are brought into school each day so that these can be checked each morning. Comments and observations will be noted and/or responded to as required.

Alfriston School: Fair, friendly, fulfilling and fun!

Maths

In Maths we will be continuing to build on our knowledge of number - first concentrating on place value within 3 and 4 digit numbers and then moving onto addition and subtraction with 3 and 4 digit numbers.

The children will also continue to learn their multiplication tables. Comprehension of, and access to, times tables understanding will aid your child in all aspects of their Maths learning. To encourage them to learn their times tables we will carry out a weekly 'Times Table Challenge' test. As we want the children to work towards having instant recall of the times tables the tests are timed – initially this is for the children to challenge themselves but ultimately, if the children can get all the answers correct within a specified time limit, then they will quickly climb up the times tables tower.

Use of TTRockstars will support your child with their times tables practice.

Science

In Science, our topic is 'Rocks'. We will be comparing and grouping together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties. We will be describing in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock. We will be recognising that soils are made from rocks and organic matter

P.E.

Our PE session this term will focus on Cricket. Our weekly class PE slot is Tuesday.

The children will not be changing for P.E and will not need their P.E kit. Please note that they should be wearing trainers at all times.

R.E.

Our RE topic this term is 'Hanukkah' where we will present the key teachings and beliefs of the Jewish religion; refer to religious figures and holy books to explain answers; explain some of the religious practices of both clerics and individuals. R.E will be taught in a cross-curricular way so that children are still practicing skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening while the RE provides the context. Please note, as detailed in government legislation, that you have "the right to request that the pupil be excused from all or part of the RE provided. [You] do not have to provide a reason and the school must comply with [your] request. It is however [your] responsibility to provide alternative work if [your] child is withdrawn. Parents and carers must also be aware that RE is cross-curricular and in primary schools it may be taught as part of another subject area for which there is no legal right to withdraw."

Home Learning

Homework supports your child's learning and consists of the following activities each week -

- Regular reading (at least five times a week with an adult acknowledging this in the reading record);
- Spellings – your child has an individual spelling list which is accessed through e-schools and updated weekly
- Maths homework will also be set on the e-schools learning platform. This homework will revise, consolidate or extend the Maths learning taking place at school each week.
- Children should also be encouraged to use 'TTRockStars' in order to develop their knowledge of number facts.

There is no additional task based homework menu in term 2.

If you find that homework is a struggle for your child then please inform me immediately.

Communication

Finally, it is vital that children feel happy and supported in school in order to be able to learn. This is best achieved when home and school work in partnership. If you do you have any questions or concerns then please email me at sapphire@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk and I will get back to you as soon as possible or please phone the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E Farror