

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



E-Mail: [office@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk)

Telephone: (01323) 870203

Website: [www.alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk](http://www.alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Lindsey Hudson BA (Hons)

**Class:** Sapphire (Year 3 & 4)

September 2021

**Teacher:** Mrs Farror

**Teaching Assistant:** Mrs Townsend

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hello and welcome back to school. After another strange and unsettling year last year, it's wonderful to be finally getting back to normal. I really look forward to seeing you at the Sapphire Class '**Meet The Teacher**' meeting straight after school on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September**. A crèche will be provided for children and any younger siblings.

This term is a 7½ week term and, as usual, we have lots of learning to cover and I have high expectations of attainment and progress.

Please take a look at the separate curriculum overview attachment to advise you of the topic related learning and please see the 'Home Learning' section of this letter to provide you with further details about how you can best support your child at home.

**Learning Journey topic** This term our topic is '**Around The World**'. This is a combined English and Geography topic. In English, we will be using Jules Verne's story 'Around The World in Eighty Days' and in Geography, we will be studying 'Longitude and Latitude'.

**English** In English, we will be using our core 'rich' text for this term - 'Around The World in Eighty Days' to lead into our writing and the children will be writing 'to entertain', 'to inform' and 'to persuade'.

We will also have regular spelling, grammar & 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 use of the monitored reading record booklets has been incredibly successful so thank you 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 but ideally every day. 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.

**Maths** Our topic is Number: **Place Value**.

Alongside our topic learning, the children will also start to / continue to learn their multiplication tables facts. The **Year 4** children have their formal **Multiplication Tables Check** in Term 6 so the sooner we embed the tables the better.

Alfriston School: Fair, friendly, fulfilling and fun!

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 continue to carry out our weekly 'Times Table Challenge' test. We want the children to work towards having instant recall of the times tables, therefore the tests are formal and are timed – it is wonderful to see how quickly the children are climbing up our class 'times tables tower'.

Daily use of **TTRockstars** will support your child with their times tables practise. As the year 3 children are unfamiliar with **TTRockstars** they will be shown how to access and use it at school before accessing it at home.

**Science** Our topic is '**Animals including Humans**'. We will be identifying that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food; that they get nutrition from what they eat; describing the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans; constructing and interpreting a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.

**P.E.** Our PE sessions this term will be on Monday and Thursday afternoons. The children will once again be changing for P.E lessons and will need their P.E kit.

**R.E.** Our RE topic is '**Stories from the Old Testament and comparing Creation Stories**'. We will be looking at the key teachings and beliefs of a religion; referring to religious figures and holy books to explain answers; and asking questions that have no universally agreed answers. Just a reminder that R.E is taught in a cross-curricular way so that children are practicing skills in reading, writing, speaking & 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 & the school must comply with [your] request. It is however [your] responsibility to provide alternative work if [your] child is withdrawn. Parents & carers must also be aware that RE is cross-curricular & in primary schools it may be taught as part of another subject area for which there is no legal right to withdraw."

**Equipment** All equipment / resources are provided for the children when at school. Children must not bring anything into school other than their P.E kit, their school banded reading book, their reading record booklet, their snack and their lunch (if required), their water bottle and appropriate outer layers. They must not bring in a pencil case.

**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 will have an individual spelling list which is accessed through **Google Classroom** and updated weekly.
- Maths homework will also be set on **Google Classroom**. This homework will meet the requirements of the KIRF's (Key Instant Recall Facts) for this term.
- Children should also use '**TTRockStars**' in order to develop their knowledge of multiplication facts.

This term there is also a task-based homework menu – this will be put on Google Classroom. If you find that homework is a struggle for your child then please inform me immediately.

**Communication** If you do you have any questions or concerns then please email me at [sapphire@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:sapphire@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk) and I will get back to you as soon as possible or please phone the school office. I hope to see you on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September**.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E Farror

Alfriston School: Fair, friendly, fulfilling and fun!