

# Alfriston School

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Headteacher: Mrs Lindsey Hudson BA (Hons)

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019

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

**Teacher:** Mr Sibson

**Teaching Assistant/HLTA:** Mrs Bliss and Miss Rogers

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the final term of the year for our current Sapphire Class!

## **Curriculum Information**

### **Learning Journey topic**

This term, our topic is 'Much Ado About Nothing', an historical topic exploring life in Tudor and Elizabethan England. We will be exploring some of the famous figures from the time, especially the Tudors themselves. We will take a journey into the world and work of William Shakespeare and even take inspiration for our own writing. Throughout the term, there will be a selection of activities that will introduce children to authentic crafts, costumes and clothing from the time.

Our science topic will look at states of matter. We will learn about how solids, liquids and gases are different from each other and why they do the things that they do!

### **English**

In English this term, alongside our Learning Journey, we will be using the reading that we do to broaden our factual knowledge and lead into our writing, and we will think about ways to effectively plan written work across a variety of styles and genres. We will also have regular spelling, grammar and punctuation sessions.

We will continue with our focus on spelling, as this is an area that has been highlighted in the National Curriculum, and we will look at patterns and rules as well as encouraging children to learn the spelling of words that they use regularly to support their writing. Our testing will continue with progression earned once we can see that children have not just learned a correct spelling but are applying them consistently within their writing.

### **Maths**

Maths lessons will be taught within the class to enable us to effectively deliver the National Curriculum and we will initially be building on our understanding of the number system. We will also have a focus on mental mathematics, developing a range of strategies for calculating mentally, concentrating in particular on multiplication and division as well as applying our number skills to contexts including measurements. We will continue to look at the multiplication tables, and children will carry out a weekly 'Times Table Challenge', to increase their speed and recall of these number facts. Progression will be based on consistency and accuracy.

Alfriston School: Fair, friendly, fulfilling and fun!

## **P.E.**

Our PE sessions this term will focus on athletics and swimming. Our fixed PE slots are Monday for athletics and Wednesday for swimming, though these are subject to change. Please note that we ask that children bring in their PE kit every day to school; in this way we can be as flexible as possible in order to take advantage of any extra PE slots in the timetable.

## **R.E.**

Our RE topic this term is 'Abraham'. This will be largely taught during English lessons in a cross-curricular way so that children are still practising skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening while the RE provides the context. Parents and guardians should be aware, as detailed in government legislation, that they have "the right to request that the pupil be excused from all or part of the RE provided. They do not have to provide a reason and the school must comply with their request. It is however the parents' or guardians' responsibility to provide alternative work if the 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 children's learning and consists of core tasks which are ongoing activities: regular reading with an adult which should be recorded in the Reading Record Book, discussing the content in increasing depth in order to further develop comprehension; Spellings – the children have an individual spelling list which is recorded in their yellow Spelling Logs and updated regularly; children are also encouraged to undertake weekly Maths activities, including the use of the 'ttRockStars' website in order to develop children's knowledge of number facts.

In line with our Home Learning Policy, there will be no home learning project this term. This final term is always a busy one with plenty of activities in and out of school, and a focus on transition to our new classes.

## **Request**

We are always grateful for helpers to come in and listen to the children read or play maths games. We would also be very grateful to volunteers who could support on our P.E. afternoons to enable us to use the recreation ground next to school. If you feel you could spare an hour to do so and you have an up to date 'Alfriston School' Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, your help will be greatly appreciated. Please catch one of us in the playground, give us a call via the school office or arrange an appointment to see us.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do come and speak to us – it is important that children are happy at school in order to learn to the best of their abilities and we will always try to make time to talk to you. We are generally available after school but if this time of the day isn't possible for you then we can always arrange a more mutually convenient appointment time – just phone the school office to arrange.

Yours sincerely,

Mr L Sibson

Mrs K Bliss

Miss Rogers