

# Alfriston School

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Headteacher: Mrs Lindsey Hudson BA (Hons)

June 2021

**Class:** Emerald (Year 5 & 6)

**Teacher:** Mr Sibson

**Teaching Assistant/HLTA:** Mrs Bliss

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back as we embark upon our final term of the year. This is traditionally a busy one full of exciting and emotional events and activities which we are really looking forward to!

## **Curriculum Information**

### **Learning Journey topic**

For our Learning Journey topic this term, we have a History focus - Smugglers and Pirates - which will include learning about local history and will build on the children's existing knowledge about the area. In addition to the History focus, the topic has links with other areas of the curriculum, including English and Geography.

We will be discussing what children already know about the history of smuggling in the area; sharing their knowledge and understanding is a valuable resource to support the learning of all the children. If they have any family stories or other resources that they would like to share, that would be lovely!

### **English**

In English this term, alongside our Learning Journey, we will be using the reading that we do to lead into our writing and we will think about ways to effectively plan 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 doing exploring a range of writing activities each week.

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.

### **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. We will also 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.

### **Science**

In Science, our topic continues as 'Living Things and Their Habitats'. We will build on children's knowledge about the living things that we may find in local habitats and their life cycles.

**P.S.H.E / R.S.E** Our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health & Economic) education topic this term is 'Changing Me' which also includes RSE (Relationship & Sex Education).

You will be receiving a letter in due course with more information as you have the right to withdraw your child/ren from a specific lesson, if you wish. In the meantime, any parent/carer can view our PSHE Education Policy, which we updated in September 2020 in light of the statutory requirements for RSE – you will find this in the policy section of our school website.

**Alfriston School: Fair, friendly, fulfilling and fun!**

## **P.E.**

Our regular PE slot this term is Monday afternoon. We will continue to wear our school uniforms for our PE lessons and will be wearing trainers to school. We are also excited to be able to access our swimming pool once again. Lessons will run for a two week period starting on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July.

## **R.E.**

Our RE topic this term is 'Commitment'. 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**

All of our Home Learning resources can now be accessed through Google Classroom and will be made available from the first week of term. Homework supports children's learning and consists of core tasks which are ongoing activities:

- Regular reading (at least five times a week with an adult acknowledging this in the reading record);
- Spellings – the children have an individual spelling list which is accessed through Google Classroom and updated regularly;
- Children are also encouraged to undertake weekly Maths activities which will be posted on Google Classroom, as well as 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 homework project due to the busy nature of this term.

Please help us to encourage your child to complete their homework to the best of their ability and hand it in on time as this will support their learning and also develop their independence as they prepare for transition to secondary school. If you find that homework is a struggle for your child then please inform us immediately and together we will find ways of overcoming this.

As previously stated, this is a packed term full of exciting opportunities and we will keep you informed with all that you need to know regarding trips, events and activities as soon as we are able.

Finally, it is vital that children feel happy and supported by school in order to learn and to develop as confident members of our community; this is best achieved when home and school work in partnership. If you have any questions or concerns, please do stay in touch through the class e-mail – [emerald@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:emerald@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk) – or phone the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Mr L Sibson