

# Alfriston School

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Headteacher: Mrs Lindsey Hudson BA (Hons)

November 2022

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

**Teacher:** Mrs Farror

**Teaching Assistant:** Mrs Townsend

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 2. I hope you had a lovely half term.

As usual, we have lots of learning to cover this term and we 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 'Meet The Flintstones'. This is a combined English and History/Geography based topic.

In **English**, we will be using our core rich text, **Maroo of The Winter Caves** by Ann Turnbull, to lead into our reading and writing and the children will be reading for a range of purposes and writing 'to entertain', writing 'to inform' and writing '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 pieces of writing.

We will 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.

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.

Thank you for your support with the monitored reading record booklets. We ask that your child reads at home at least 5 times a week but ideally every day. Please occasionally, as your child reads, ask them questions about what they have read, about what is inferred and gauge whether they can reflect on the author's purpose. In addition, please check that they understand the meaning of any unfamiliar or complex words. Each child will have a **Reading Question** prompts bookmark in their reading book so please use that for guidance and suggestions. Reading record booklets should be brought into school every day. Comments and observations will be noted, and/or responded to, as required.

**Maths** Our topic continues to be Number: Place Value.

Alongside our topic learning, the Year 3 children will start to learn their multiplication tables facts. The Year 4 children will have their formal **Multiplication Tables Check** in Term 6 so really need to embed the times tables up to 12x12.

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 will be wonderful to see how quickly the children climb 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 it and how to use it at school before accessing it at home.

**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; describing in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock and recognising that soils are made from rocks and organic matter.

**P.E.** Our PE sessions will continue to be on Monday and Friday afternoons. The children will need their P.E kits in school on those days but are advised to have them in school all week.

**R.E.** Our RE topic is '**What do Christians learn from the creation story?**'. We will be placing the concepts of God and Creation on a timeline of the Bible's 'big story'; making clear links between Genesis 1 and what Christians believe about God and Creation; recognising that the story of 'the Fall' in Genesis 3 gives an explanation for why things go wrong in the world; describing what Christians do because they believe God is Creator; describing how and why Christians might pray to God, say sorry and ask for forgiveness and asking questions and suggesting answers about what might be important in the Creation story for Christians and for non- Christians living today. 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.

Parents and carers should be aware, as detailed in government legislation (Religious education in English schools: non-statutory guidance 2010) and in the East Sussex Agreed Syllabus for RE 2022-2027, that they have the right to request that the pupil be withdrawn from all or part of the RE provided.

"This was first granted when RE was actually religious *instruction* and carried with it connotations of induction into the Christian faith. RE is very different now – open, broad, exploring a range of religious and non-religious worldviews. However, parents have the right to withdraw their children from RE lessons or any part of the RE curriculum and the school has a duty to supervise them, though not to provide additional teaching or to incur extra cost. Where the pupil has been withdrawn, the law provides for alternative arrangements to be made for RE of the kind the parents want the pupil to receive. These arrangements will be made by the parents; the school is not expected to make these arrangements."

*East Sussex Agreed Syllabus for RE 2022-2027*

**Equipment** All equipment / resources are provided for the children when at school. Children do not need to 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.

- **Times Tables** homework will also be set and children should use '**TTRockStars**' in order to develop their knowledge of multiplication facts.

This term there is NO task-based homework menu.

**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) or please phone the school office.

Yours sincerely,

*E J Farror*

Mrs E Farror