

Blue Class (Year 3) Spring Term 2019

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a fantastic Christmas holiday. Our topic for this term is 'Stone Age to Iron Age'. This topic will find us looking at this period of history as well as exploring rocks and forces as part of our science work. Please see our topic web for more detail of our work this term.

Keeping active and healthy

Blue Class will have forest school on a Monday afternoon (please remember warm clothes, waterproofs and appropriate footwear) and a P.E. session on a Thursday afternoon but children should have their full P.E. kit in every day as we will also be ensuring we complete our daily mile as part of encouraging an active and healthy lifestyle. As part of this we also ask that the children have a named water bottle in school that is filled with water to help keep them hydrated throughout the day. A healthy snack e.g. fruit for morning break is also recommended as the children do not have lunch until 12.30.

Home learning

Reading

In year 3 a lot of children become confident readers and like to read to themselves – this is great but we also expect every child to read at home out loud to an adult for at least 3 x 10 minute sessions a week, more if possible. Well done to the children who have received their reading certificates – we look forward to giving out more certificates for 25, 50 and 100 hours of reading. Please remember we do listen to the children read at school so it is important that their book comes into school every single day. Please note that this is not always recorded in their reading diary.

Times Tables

The children need to further develop their Times Table knowledge this term and by the end of year 3 should know their 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables. Times Tables Rock Stars is still available to practice these vital maths skills so please make use of this resource. Of course this is not the only way to learn times tables and some games / helpful practice sheets may be sent home from time to time. We all learn in different ways so it is important that the children use a method of learning these facts that best suits them. Each week the children will have a timed challenge to complete (please note they are trying to improve their own scores / time, not competing with others).

Spelling

Finally, spellings need to continue to be part of their weekly routine for home learning. This is not to be considered a test, the last thing we want is for children to become stressed about spellings however they do need to learn them. Each child will continue to have their own personal spellings, these will be a mixture of the Y3/4 words which they choose themselves from a list and any words they are repeatedly spelling incorrectly in their work.

They will have only 5 words a week to learn and will test themselves with their friends on a Wednesday. When the children are secure with a particular spelling they can highlight it off the sheet in the front of their book and choose some more. We will continue to learn different ways to practise. I will also be directly teaching spelling rules and they will have time to practise in school too.

Some ideas for rainy Sundays

<p>Research facts and create your own poster about Skara Brae or Stonehenge.</p>	<p>Write an acrostic poem about the Stone Age. S T O N E etc.</p>	<p>Make up a quiz with facts about The Stone Age. Make sure you also have the answers!</p>	<p>Make a 3D model of Stonehenge.</p>
<p>Design and make a game to help children learn their 8 times table.</p>	<p>Stone Age people could not pop to the shop for food. Everything they ate had to be caught or collected. Write your own recipe for a stone age dinner using the sort of ingredients that would be available to them.</p>	<p>We know that the first recordings of art were Cave Art. Design a piece of cave art using materials of your choice. i.e. paint, chalk, crayon.</p>	<p>Write a list of at least 5 questions that you would like to ask a Stone Age person.</p>