

## What we will be learning this half term:

English - The children have thoroughly enjoyed our novel, The Firework Maker's Daughter by Philip Pullman. We ended last half term on a cliff-hanger, so we are all very excited to read the final chapter. We will be writing an alternative ending to the story and then writing a book review.

Afterwards, we will be reading the story 'Escape from Pompeii' which tells the story of the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. We will be writing a historical newspaper report about the eruption and writing a fact sheet to inform about volcanoes.

We are starting the half term looking at spelling rules using the suffixes -ed, -er, -ing and -ation. For the final three weeks of term we will be looking at word origins and learning how words in the English language have been derived from Latin and French.

Maths - The children will be learning how to find the fraction of a quantity. We will then be learning about the measures of length, mass and capacity and finishing the term looking at types of triangles and quadrilaterals.

It is a National expectation that pupils confidently know multiplication and division facts up to 12x12 by the time they leave year 4. Miss Jewett carries out times table intervention on a Monday afternoon where she assesses which times table each of the children know. We expect the children to be able to chant the table, list the multiples of each number and answer multiplication and division facts at random. The children all progress at different rates which is why Miss Jewett works on a one to one basis. Practice is key and we really appreciate your support in helping your child to learn these facts. There are lots of games available online to support the learning of the tables. We often spend ten minutes at the start of the day playing 'hit the button' which is a fun way of answering tables questions at random.

History - As part of our history topic, Mr Henderson, our chair of Governors, is coming into class 3 to deliver three separate workshops on Roman Britain. He has lots of photographs and artefacts of local history to share with the children.

Geography - We will be learning about volcanoes around the world. We will focus on Mount Vesuvius in particular and find out about the city of Pompeii.

Art - In art we will be looking at Roman mosaics and recreating our own patterns and designs.

ICT - In class 3 we are opening a Roman restaurant! The children will need to design a poster advertising their restaurant, a menu and invitations to a special event, all using publishing tools on the laptops. The children will also use iPads to film 'Saturday Kitchen' live from their restaurant!

Music - Class 3 are continuing to learn how to play the recorder with Mrs Coulls.

Science - Miss Jewett is teaching sound and electricity in science this term.

RE – Miss Jewett will be teaching the children about Lent and why it is so important to Christians.



Swimming continues to run every Monday morning. Our additional PE lesson is now on a Tuesday and our topic is rounders. Please write a note in your child's school diary or contact the school office if there are any circumstances where they need to miss PE or swimming. Please can jewellery be removed and long hair tied back on these days.

## <u>Reading</u>

When the children were in the infants, a volunteer read with them most days and changed their reading books. In Key Stage 2, we don't have as much support so the reading books get changed when support is available. The books will be changed on a Monday, then collected on a Thursday, changed after school and sent out again on a Friday. Please can you sign the diary to say if your child has read and needs to be issued with a new book. If the books are not handed in at these points, they will be changed at the next available opportunity. It really helps to keep on top of the system if the books are in school on the correct days. The children need to build up a reading stamina, so keeping up with changing books on a Monday and Thursday, will mean the children are reading two levelled books a week. I still highly encourage reading other materials for pleasure alongside a levelled book. Thank you for your support with this system.

Thank you for reading our newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch,

Kind regards,

Miss Dodds