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# Alfriston School

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Headteacher: Mrs Lindsey Hudson BA (Hons)

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

June 2022

**Teacher:** Mrs Farror

**Teaching Assistant:** Mrs Townsend

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hello and welcome back to school for **Term 6**. I hope you all had an enjoyable break and enjoyed the Jubilee festivities.

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 '**It's Not Easy Being Green – Flora & Fauna**'. This is a combined English and Science topic focusing on **Living Things & Their Habitats**.

**English** In English, we will be using our core 'rich' text for this term - '**The Paper Bag Prince**' by **Colin Thompson** - to lead into our writing. The children will be writing 'to entertain', 'to inform' and 'to persuade'.

In our English curriculum we will be supporting children as they develop their skills and will be working towards pieces of extended writing each week. We will also have regular spelling, grammar & punctuation sessions where we will continue with our focus on spelling both the 'high frequency words' and the 'common exception words'. We will look at spelling patterns and rules as well as encourage children to learn the spelling of the words, which they use regularly to support their writing. 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, 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. Reading record booklets must be brought into school every day. Comments and observations will be noted, and/or responded to, as required.

**Maths** In Maths this term we will be finishing off our topic of **Number: Division** and then we will be moving on to **Number: Fractions and Geometry: Properties of Shapes**.

Alongside our topic learning, the children will also continue to learn their multiplication tables facts. The Year 4 children have their formal **Multiplication Tables Check** this term, so the sooner we embed knowledge of the tables, the better.

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 is wonderful to see how quickly the children are climbing up our class 'times tables tower'. Daily use of **TTRockstars** will support your child with their times tables practise.

Alfriston School: Fair, friendly, fulfilling and fun!

**Science** Our topic is '**Living Things & Their Habitats**'. We will be recognising that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways; exploring and using classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment and recognising that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.

**P.E.** Our PE sessions are on **Monday** and **Thursday** afternoons in weeks **1, 4, 5, 6 and 7** when we will do **Games** and **Athletics**.

In weeks **2 and 3** the children will have **swimming** lessons on **Monday, Tuesday** and **Thursday afternoons**. The children will need their P.E kits or swimming kits in school on those days but are advised to have them in school all week.

**R.E.** Our RE topic is '**Symbols of Judaism & Christianity**'. We will be referring to religious figures and holy books to explain answers; identifying religious symbolism in literature and the arts; identifying religious artefacts and explaining how and why they are used.

A reminder that R.E is taught in a cross-curricular way so that children are practising skills in reading, writing, speaking & listening while the RE provides the context. Please note, as detailed in government legislation, that you have "the right to request that the pupil be excused from all or part of the RE provided. [You] do not have to provide a reason & the school must comply with [your] request. It is however [your] responsibility to provide alternative work if [your] child is withdrawn. Parents & carers must also be aware that RE is cross-curricular & in primary schools it may be taught as part of another subject area for which there is no legal right to withdraw."

**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).

Year 4 parents/carers will be receiving a letter in due course with more information as they have the right to withdraw their child/ren from a specific lesson if they wish. In the meantime, any parent/carer can view our PSHE Education Policy, which you will find in the policy section of our school website.

**Equipment** All equipment / resources are provided for the children when at school. Children must only bring in their **P.E kit**, their **school banded reading book**, their **reading record booklet**, their **snack** and their **lunch** (if required), their **water bottle** and outer layers as appropriate.

**Home Learning** Homework supports your child's learning & consists of the following activities -

- Regular reading (at least five times a week with an adult acknowledging this in the reading record). We are really focusing on Reading Comprehension so, please, when hearing your child read, use the pointers in the children's **Reading Questions Bookmark**. This **bookmark** should be in each child's book bag
- Spellings – your child will have an individual spelling list which is accessed through **Google Classroom** and updated weekly. Spelling tests are on a Wednesday.
- Maths homework will also be set on **Google Classroom**. This homework will meet the requirements of the KIRFs (Key Instant Recall Facts) for this term.
- Children should also use '**TTRockStars**' in order to develop their knowledge of multiplication facts. Times Tables tests are on a Thursday.
- 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