



Autumn 2021 Class Newsletter New Zealand

Class Teacher: Miss Heasman

Welcome back to school!

Hello and welcome back to school! I have loved working with the new New Zealand team this week and can't wait to see what adventures we get up to over the coming year.

Important dates for New Zealand class:

- Stone Age Forest Schools - Thursday 16th September
- Non-school uniform day for Harvest - 17th September
- Meet the teacher Zoom meeting - Wednesday 29th September
- Half Term - Monday 25th - Friday 29th October
- Parents' evening School Cloud meeting - Tuesday 9th November and Thursday 11th November
- Last day of term - Friday 17th December

P.E. - the children will be doing P.E. on a Thursday morning each week. This session will be outdoors and will be led by Mrs Burbidge. This term, the children will be exploring invasion games, such as netball and hockey.

Please ensure that the correct P.E. kit is brought in and remains in school during the week at all times. P.E. kit will be sent home every Friday to give you the opportunity to have it cleaned and returned to school again the following Monday.

All kit must be clearly named, long hair must be tied back and earrings must be removed for PE sessions. Children should have the correct P.E. kit as per the school uniform policy. This includes, a white P.E. shirt, dark shorts, suitable sports trainers, long dark track suit bottoms and a jumper for outdoors in a named PE kit bag.

**We are unable to loan any P.E. kit to children nor are they permitted to borrow P.E. kit and trainers from other children in the school.*

Swimming will continue until October half term. New Zealand class will participate in swimming lessons on a Friday, which will be taught by Mrs Treadwell. Please ensure your child brings their swimming kit in on a Friday, and is equipped with the appropriate swimwear and towel. If your child has hair longer than shoulder length, they will be required to wear a swimming hat. However, it is advised that all children should wear swimming hats.

Homework: We expect ALL children to submit homework.

- Reading logs - please ensure you listen to, or monitor, your child reading three times per week and that this is signed and dated in their reading log. Now your child is in Key Stage 2, we will encourage them to write in their reading logs as independently as possible. This will form an important part of my assessment for reading, and is a key dialogue between home and school. Reading logs will be collected in every Monday and returned to the children on Wednesday.*
- Weekly spellings - these will be sent home on a Monday and tested on Friday. Spelling word lists will be uploaded to Google Classroom so the children can practise their spellings at home.*
- Homework - this will be uploaded to Google Classroom each half term in a grid format, with one piece expected in from your child each week. They may choose which activities they may like to complete. Parents/carers please then photograph or scan the children's homework tasks and email them to me via the class email address. nz@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk*

Theme for the first half term - The Stone Age

Our theme for this term is all about the Stone Age and we will be discovering lots about who lived in the Stone Age and what their lives were like. Our English and History units will be based around our topic work and much of our work in other subjects links to the theme where possible. We will be kicking off our topic with a Stone Age Forest Schools session on Thursday 16th September, details of which you should have already received.

English - We will be using a range of texts to help our writing this year and will also be continuing to use Talk For Writing throughout

all of our Literacy lessons. Here are the main themes we will follow during the term:

Theme
Narrative
Persuasive Texts
Half term

Maths - Work will always be differentiated to suit the needs of the child. We will be following the White Rose Maths Scheme. Our themes for this term will be:

Theme
Number and Place Value
Addition and Subtraction
Multiplication and Division
Half Term

Science - We are kicking off Science this year by learning all about rocks. In our very first Science lesson, we made igneous and sedimentary chocolate rocks!

Computing - Our focus for Computing this term will be on computer coding and e-safety.

R.E. - We will start our RE learning by studying the Creation Story and what Christians learn from it, before moving on to looking at what the Trinity is. Finally, we will learn about Hinduism and the story of Rama and Sita.

Relationship & Health Education (RHE).

This term we will be learning about the harmful effects of drugs and tobacco and how to recognise bullying. All lessons are age-appropriate and tailored specifically to the year group.

Art - At the beginning of this term, our Art will be linked to our Stone Age topic work. We will then be investigating different patterns, linked to our work in Maths on shape.

Music - As a school, we follow a programme called Charanga. This half term, we will focus on a song titled, 'Let your spirit fly'.

D&T - Our DT work will be linked to our topic work where we will be making Stone Age jewellery. We will be designing our own items and then creating them using string, clay and shells.

History - In our History we will be looking at the Stone Age with specific relevance to hunters and gatherers. We will focus on a Stone Age village discovered in Scotland, and expand our knowledge on how and where people lived in the Stone Age.

MFL - Our Modern Foreign Language is Spanish and the children will be learning Spanish each week with Miss Bell.

Other Important Information

COVID-19 - As a school we have been making a concerted effort to ensure you are well-informed regarding the school's procedures and practices that we are implementing as a direct result of the pandemic of COVID-19. Please ensure you continue to read the school newsletters and email correspondence.

Contact - Unfortunately, during such unprecedented times I am unable to meet with parents or carers in person. However, should you have ANY concerns, please contact me via the class email address: nz@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk or via the school office.

Allergies - we are a nut-free school. We politely request that you ensure your child does not bring nuts into school as a snack or in their packed lunches. This includes any food item that may contain nuts.

Snacks - please ensure your child brings a suitable fruit or vegetable snack for their break. Unsuitable items such as large chocolate bars and crisps are not considered to be a healthy snack and will be removed.

Written permission - written permission is required annually from you should your child be collected from school by an alternative adult, for example, someone who would be picking up your child from school on an ad-hoc basis. This includes other parents with whom your child may be going to on a play date. We do not allow siblings under the age of 16 to collect from school without written request by you and

acceptance from the school. This information should be directed to the School Office and not the class email address.

Bullying in School - We have been asked to mention our anti-bullying policy. Bullying of any kind is not tolerated in our school, either physical and emotional. Bullying is 'the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power'. It can happen face to face or online.

I appreciate there has been an awful lot of additional information to contend with of late, and hopefully you have found my newsletter helpful.

If you have any concerns please feel free to speak with me via the class email nz@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk, or ring the school on 01798 872007.

Kind regards,

Miss Heasman
New Zealand Class Teacher