



Autumn 2019 Class Newsletter Ireland

Class Teacher: Mrs Benson

Welcome back!

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer holiday and are looking forward to an exciting new term in store! Here is a brief outline of the topics we will be covering and some helpful points to note.

Important dates for Ireland class:

- Stone Age Forest Schools – Tuesday 10th September
- Meet the teacher – Wednesday 25th September
- Individual children's photos – Friday 20th September
- Half Term – Monday 28th – Friday 1st November
- INSET day – Monday 4th November
- Parents' evening – Wednesday 13th November 3:30pm to 7:30pm.
- Ireland Class Assembly – Friday 15th November
- Last day of term – Friday 20th December

Swimming

We are hoping to continue with swimming lessons up until the half term holidays. This will obviously be subject to suitable weather conditions. Our swimming session will be every Friday morning beginning Friday 13th September, from 08:45-10:45. Please ensure the correct swimming kit is brought to school accordingly. We will need new written permission should your children wish to wear swimming goggles. In order for swimming to proceed we require parent volunteers. If you are able to assist, please make yourself known to the Office at your earliest opportunity.

P.E. – the children will be doing P.E. on a Thursday morning each week. The Thursday outdoor games session will be taught by coaches from Brighton and Hove Albion.

Following half term when the swimming pool closes, the children will have an indoor P.E. session on a Wednesday.

Please ensure that the correct PE kit is brought in and remains in school at all times. 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.

Homework:

- Reading logs – please ensure you listen to, or monitor, your child reading **three times per week** and 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 but should be in school every day so adults can hear your child read.
- Weekly spellings – these will be sent home on a Monday and tested on the following Monday.

- Homework – this will be given out each term in a grid format, with one piece expected in from your child each week. I am flexible with which day your child gives in their homework; it will be marked on a Thursday each week and returned to your child on a Friday.

Theme for the 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 literacy and history units will be based around our topic work and much of our work in other subjects link to the theme where possible. We will be kicking off our topic with an extra Stone Age forest schools session on Tuesday 10th September, details of which you should have already received. Once again, parent volunteers are required. If you are able to assist please do let me know.

Literacy – 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
Instructions
Reports
Dialogue and Plays
Half term
Stories with familiar settings
Shape Poetry and Calligrams
Poems to Perform

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 perimeter
Subtraction including money
Half Term
Multiplication and Area
Division including money
Fractions
Christmas activities

Science – We will study two main themes this term. Before half term we will be studying rocks and fossils, and during the second half of term we will focus on forces and magnets.

Computing – Our focus for Computing this term will be on E-Safety and how to stay safe on the internet. We will be presenting what we learn about E-Safety using a range of programmes and software.

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.

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 – Our music topic this term is Play it Again. Children will be exploring and performing different rhythmic patterns, including Christmas poems and songs.

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.

Geography – In our Geography work we will be exploring a range of different countries and settlements, making comparisons between different places and where we live, and to 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

Parent Volunteers – As a school we are grateful for any additional assistance to help further your child's learning. In order to become a volunteer it is required that you undertake a DBS check. This can be arranged with the School Office. In addition to a DBS check you are required to read and sign the school's volunteer policy outlining health and safety, and safeguarding policies.

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

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 a written request by you and acceptance from the school.

Bullying in School – We have been asked to mention our anti-bullying policy. Bullying of any kind is not tolerated in our school, both 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 hope this has been helpful. If you have any concerns please feel free to speak with me, ring the school on 01798 872007 to arrange an appointment at the School Office.

Kind regards,

Mrs Benson
Ireland Class Teacher