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# Alfriston School

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Headteacher: Mrs Lindsey Hudson BA (Hons)

February 2019

**Class:** Emerald (Years 5 & 6)

**Teacher:** Mrs Crystal

**Teaching Assistant:** Mrs Rogers, Mrs Townsend

*Dear parents and carers,*

*Welcome back to school after our short break. I hope that you had an enjoyable week. The children are settling back into school and we are hard at work, continuing our Learning Journey topic about the Romans.*

## **Curriculum Information**

### Learning Journey topic

*Through our Learning Journey topic this term, we will continue to look at the different sources of information that we have in order to develop our knowledge about the past. We will look in particular at the chronology of the Roman invasion of Britain, using appropriate historical vocabulary.*

### English

*In English this term, we will use information sources linked to our Learning Journey to develop language skills. We will also look at drawing inferences in our reading, justifying our opinions with evidence from the text. It is also important that children are able to assess and improve their own writing, and this will continue to be a focus.*

### Maths

*In Maths, we will look at measurement, finding the perimeter and area of shapes, using formulae when appropriate. Linked to this are Year 6 objectives about scale factors and algebra. We will continue to develop children's ability to calculate accurately using a range of strategies. Children will continue to apply their mathematical understanding in a variety of problem solving situations.*

### Science

*Our Science topic this term is 'Light'. The topic will build on children's existing knowledge about how light behaves, as well as shadows and reflections. Children will find out about how light travels and how we see things.*

### P.E.

*Our P.E. sessions this term will centre around Striking and Fielding Games and Gymnastics. We do suggest that children have their P.E. kits in every day; in this way we can be as flexible as possible and take advantage of any extra PE slots in the timetable. Please ensure that children*

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*have something warm to wear for outdoor sessions: a pair of tracksuit bottoms and a sweatshirt are ideal. Our fixed PE slots will be Monday and Thursday this term.*

### **R.E.**

*In RE this term, we will be learning about the Easter story, focusing on the significance to Christians of Good Friday, the Resurrection and Holy Communion. This will be largely taught during English lessons in a cross-curricular way so that children are still practising skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening while the RE provides the context.*

*We will continue to take advantage of the curriculum interests and strengths of members of staff, and so Mr Sibson will be teaching Emerald Class on Tuesday afternoons. He will focus on Computing and Music.*

### **Home Learning**

*Homework supports children's learning and includes core tasks, which are ongoing activities.*

*Regular reading, both in their heads and aloud to an adult, is a priority. The discussions that follow reading are particularly important in developing children's comprehension. Children have a spelling list which is recorded in their yellow Spelling Logs and updated regularly; learning these words will enable children to write with increased fluency and confidence. Children are also encouraged to undertake Maths activities in order to develop children's knowledge of number facts.*

*In line with our Home Learning Policy, there will also be a project that will be discussed with the children. They are encouraged to plan and complete the task over the term and it will then be discussed and evaluated in class. Children will have details of the task for this term and a planning and evaluation sheet. These projects support children's learning in several ways; they enable children to research and to work creatively to present their learning. They are also able to present their work to an audience, which is developing their confidence and skills in this area.*

*It would be helpful if children could have their green homework folders in their book bags so that we can update them – I am aware that sheets are sometimes 'lost in transit!'*

*If you find that homework is a struggle for your child then please inform us and together we will find ways of overcoming this.*

*We are always grateful for helpers to come in and listen to the children read or play maths games. If you can spare some time to do so and you have an up-to-date 'Alfriston School' Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, your help will be greatly appreciated. Please catch me in the playground or arrange an appointment to see me via the school office.*

*Finally, it is vital that children feel happy and supported in school in order to learn and to develop as confident members of our community; this is best achieved when home and school work in partnership. If you have any questions or concerns, please do come and speak to me. I am generally available after school but if this time of the day isn't possible for you then we can always arrange a more mutually convenient appointment time – just phone the school office to arrange.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Mrs R Crystal*

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