



# Nature's Fury

Curriculum Newsletter

Class 3 - Term One

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back, I hope all of you have had a lovely summer break. Our first topic this academic year is called Nature's Fury. Nature's Fury is a topic which will explore the wrath and impact of natural disasters as well as recalling historical natural events, scientific impacts and possible causes for natural disasters. All of the topic ideas have been linked to the appropriate objectives required and have been integrated through the English and Mathematics work where possible, to make the children's learning interesting and enjoyable for them.

Kind Regards

The Class 3 Team - Miss Crosbie and Mrs Martin

## Home Learning

### **Reading**

Children should read at least four times a week and this should be signed off in their planner. Please can you continue supporting your child's reading by ensuring they are reading at least four times a week and if you could make sure that they bring their school reading book (once they are sent home) into school every day so that we can make the most of any opportunities we have of listening to them read.

### **Spelling**

Children will be given spellings termly to practice at school. We shall be doing a range of activities to aid these spelling patterns including investigations and spotting misconceptions.

### **Multiplication Tables**

Children now need to be able to recall their times tables confidently up to  $12 \times 12$  by the end of year 4 therefore children will be expected to spend time regularly learning their multiplication and division facts throughout each week. We will be regularly assessing their mental recall of multiplication and division facts in school.

### **Weekly Homework**

Homework projects have been set for the term in their homework book. Homework will be handed in every Friday and children will receive their homework back on Monday with feedback. This homework will vary from literacy or numeracy work to topic based project work. There may also be extra activities that children may bring home at any time in the week. These will be to support their learning from that lesson and will only be given if the teacher feels it is necessary.

## How You Can Help

### **Useful resources and volunteers**

If you are interested in becoming a parent helper, who comes in weekly and listens to children read, or if you would like to support the classes learning but can't give up a weekly slot there are a few 'one off' opportunities you can volunteer for; just pop in and speak to the class teacher.

### **We especially need**

Newspapers! - please bring in any spare newspapers this term to help build our paper mache volcanoes!

### Reading

- News article - read a variety of news articles written from the point of view of someone who was there.
- Poetry - preparing poetry to perform and read aloud.
- Instruction - identify the features and making comparison between instruction texts.

**Assessment** - Children will be assessed during book talk sessions and reading comprehension activities.

### Writing

This term children will focus on three exciting extended writing pieces, planning, writing and evaluating their work. These will include the following:

- News article - write a news article about a natural disaster
- Poetry - plan and prepare a poem to read aloud.
- Instruction - create a set of instructions for someone to follow.

**Assessment/outcome** - Children will produce three interesting, extended pieces of writing. The children will also apply and use their writing skills in other subject areas.

### Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

Spelling Bee investigations will take place weekly during school time and children will be responsible for a spelling book in school to aid their spelling practise.

#### Year 3 and 4

- Suffixes & prefixes
- Possessive apostrophes
- Conjunctions, adverbs, prepositions
- Verb inflection
- Fronted adverbials and pronouns

### Mental Arithmetic

Pupils will continue to be tested weekly on their times table challenge.

- Number - number and place value
- Number - addition and subtraction mentally

**Assessment** - Children will be tested weekly on their times tables knowledge.

### Mathematics

- Number and place value - addition and subtraction using formal written methods

**Assessment** - Pupils will be continually assessed throughout lesson time and given appropriate next steps and feedback promptly.

Science

- Rocks and Fossils - compare and group together different types of rocks. Describe simply how fossils are formed.
- Light and shadows - recognise why we need light

**Assessment/outcome** - Children will be able to compare and group different kinds of rocks. Describe simply how fossils are formed. Recognise soils are made from rock and organic matter. Recognise that we need light to see and that light reflects off of surfaces.

Design and Technology

Children will use their skills to design to create a paper mache volcano.

- Design and create a paper mache volcano.

**Assessment/outcome** - children are able to design, create and evaluate creative works.

History

To study natural disasters which have occurred historically.

Modern Foreign Languages

French - listening to stories, learning vocabulary and creating simple sentences as well as listening to and singing along to French folk songs.

PE

- Netball - to develop use of running, throwing and catching in isolation and in combination in order to play competitive games of Netball.

Computing

- E-safety - we are learning to be responsible users of ICT.
- Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint - become competent, confident and creative users of technology

RE

- Belief through art - How do people express their spiritual ideas through the arts?

**Assessment** - children will be aware of the impact and reason for spiritual art.

Geography

- Study how earthquakes, hurricanes and tornadoes occur.
- Volcanoes - discuss types of volcanoes and the effects volcanic eruptions can cause.
- Climate zones, the water cycle, the world's major biomes, hemispheres and time zones.

Music

- Singing a range of appropriate songs whilst developing musicianship and musical literacy.

**Launch** - Reporting a natural disaster.

**Key drivers** - Geography, Science, Art

**WOW** - Volcanic eruptions, Earthquake drills, Weather patterns