

### **Homework**

We encourage all children to read regularly for 20 minutes at a time at least 4 times per week. As older readers, many of the children are now free readers and do not need to be listened to aloud by an adult, but to establish good understanding, it is always good to talk with your child about what they have been reading. Remember also to record in their reading records the amount of time your child has read with the date and any relevant comments, as well as a signature, please. Reading Records will be checked on daily basis so that we can see where and how your child can be supported best. The children are asked to read different types of texts, as well as develop their own tastes across a variety of genres and authors. With this in mind, we would like to remind you that children should read a combination of fiction, non-fiction, media and poetry and record this in the tally chart in their reading records please.

Children will be given spellings, literacy and maths homework on a Friday which should be returned the following Friday. Please practise spellings daily if possible—little and often is the best way to learn them. Spellings will be tested on Friday morning.

### **Times Tables**

Please help your child to learn any unknown times tables facts regularly with games, quizzes and tests: it really is essential that they have quick recall of these facts without having to count up multiples on their fingers. It aids efficiency in arithmetic and will really speed up their calculations.

### **Expectations in Rock Class**

Children throughout the school are encouraged at all times to be polite, diligent and hard working., but it is even more important that the older pupils are seen to be setting an excellent example to the younger children of the school community, especially the Y6 pupils, who as prefects, become important role models to the other children. We want the children to do the best they can and feel a sense of pride and achievement in everything they do. We put emphasis on the presentation of the children's work and we encourage and teach independence and organisational skills.

### **Class rewards**

House points are given to individuals as reward for excellent behaviour, attitudes and work. Each week star awards are given and announced in assembly. We also have table points, which the children can earn if they have worked well and these result in a reward for their whole table once they have earned 20 points.

We hope you will find this information useful. If you have any further questions or queries do not hesitate to ask. We look forward to a happy and enjoyable Autumn term in Rock Class! Thank you for your support.

With very best wishes,



## Rock Class Booklet—Autumn 1

Teacher:

Mr Finch

Teaching Assistants:

Mrs Davis

Mrs Cooke



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back Rock Class! I hope you all had a safe and happy summer. This leaflet will keep you up to date with your child's learning during the first half of the Autumn Term. Our topic this term is 'How to Build an Empire' which focuses on the Victorians.

### **Literacy**

During this term's literacy, we will look at a variety of forms of writing including non-fiction information texts, historical stories and diary writing. In addition to this we will be reading and writing historical texts, inspired by Victorian author Charles Dickens and our class book 'Street Child', set in Victorian London, which will be the basis of much of our Literacy tasks and links well to our History learning.

On a weekly basis we will also be covering the following:-

- \* Whole class reading
- \* Individual reading either independently or to an adult.
- \* SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) lessons.
- \* Weekly spellings are sent home to reinforce what is being taught in school.

### **Maths**

As you are aware, the Year 5 children will be taught by Mrs Rodwell and the Year 6 children by myself. We will continue to build on your child's knowledge of number in the first half term, beginning with Place value and the number system, including negative numbers. We will then learn the formal written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, using these to solve problems through various contexts. I cannot emphasise enough how important it is to know times tables and ask that these are regularly practised so that your child can recall these facts quickly and randomly.

### **Computing**

This term we will continue to build our knowledge of how to stay safe online. We will also be looking at how computers can be used to create 3D design using a program called Tinkercad. We will focus on linking our initial designs to our art topic on William Morris.

### **Art**

Children will learn about the Victorian artist, William Morris. His symmetrical and repeated pattern designs were inspired by nature and wild life (which challenged the industrial focus of the era). This will also link well with our work on evolution in science.

### **Science**

This half term our science topic is Evolution. The children will learn about inheritance, adaptation and how nature evolves, as well as developing a deeper understanding of the leading scientists of the time, including Charles Darwin and Mary Anning.

### **RE**

In RE we will be learning about what it is like to live as a Muslim in Britain today. We will use the 5 pillars of Islam as our starting point and consider the lives of British Muslims.

### **History**

Our work will focus on: 'How to Build an Empire' We will find out who the Victorians were, when they lived and learn about key inventions and events, including the industrial revolution and introduction of the railways. Our School Trip will be to the Box in Plymouth, where we will focus our learning on Brunel and the Tamar Bridge. We will look at how the development of the railway had a direct impact on Cornwall. We will also learn about school and working life for Victorian children as well as Queen Victoria herself.

### **PSHE (Personal Social and Health Education)**

Each week the children will have PSHE lessons based on the Jigsaw Framework. During this half term, we will learn about 'Being me in my world'. This unit focuses on the year ahead, being a global citizen and creating a class charter of what our expectations of ourselves and one another are.

### **Music**

In music this term we will be covering the Charanga unit of 'Happy' using the pop song of this title by Pharrell Williams as our focal point.

### **PE**

This term the children will continue to have PE on a Monday afternoon with Mr Rickard and a Friday afternoon with Mr Finch. In PE this half term we will be working on invasion games, focusing on netball.

### **French**

The topic for this half term's French covers the themes of seasons and weather. Pupils will learn the French words for the compass points, how to describe the climate and geographical features of different places and which countries border France. Children will also learn and perform a French Poem about Autumn.