



Spring 2020 1st Half Term - Year 4

Team Adventure News

Hello and a very Happy New Year! We hope you had a lovely Christmas spending time with loved ones. We can't believe we are already in the Spring Term. This term, we welcome back a familiar face in the form of Mrs Johnson who has returned from maternity leave to join Island class for the rest of the school year.

We find that things really start to click for the children and we see some fantastic progress. They have already come back and hit the ground running so we are all very much looking forward to a successful term.

This term our topic is '**Journey to the Unknown**' and in particular, this presents itself as an in depth study of Japan. We will learn about the climate, culture and history of Japan as well as studying some major events in the country's history.

Please ensure that your child's full PE Kit is in school, including their tracksuits and shorts as we will be alternating between outdoor and indoor PE. All children should have PE socks in their PE bags, along with a pair of black trainers which are only for PE purposes.

Class PE days are as follows:

Ocean- Monday and Thursday

Island - Monday and Wednesday

English

- ★ We will be using the novel '**Kensuke's Kingdom**' to help with our English this term. In particular the children will look at plot/setting and characters.
- ★ The specific **SPaG** skills we will be focusing on are **relative clauses**, revising **inverted commas** for speech, **Pronouns**
- ★ We have invested in some brand new **reading** and **comprehension** resources which we are very excited to get started with. Three times a week, the children will be split into groups to take part in a variety of different reading based exercises that we hope will show a marked improvement in their comprehension skills.
- ★ **Reading** at home 4 times a week is still the minimum expected of all children and a new incentive scheme has been brought in to encourage children (and parents) to keep up with this.

Maths

- ★ In maths we will be continuing to secure and develop our **number skills**, specifically **Multiplication** and **division**. The children will learn the formal written methods on both operations including long multiplication and short division (bus stop method).

$$\begin{array}{r} 186 \div 6 = \\ 6 \overline{) 186} \\ \underline{6 } 18 \\ \underline{18 } 6 \\ \underline{6 } 0 \end{array}$$

no groups of 6 can be made 3 × 6 = 18 1 × 6 = 6

- ★ The topic of **Fractions** will start towards the end of the term and be continued after the break.
- ★ In between, we will take our first look at **Measurement**, looking closely at **Area** and **Perimeter**.
- ★ As always, we will continue to focus on consolidating **times table** knowledge and will encourage the children to continually learn and practise them at home.

Topic Learning

- ★ In **Science**, we will be learning about **Light** and understanding how light works and why it behaves in certain ways. We will learn about this through a context of a crime that the children will solve - A thief has switched the lights out in a theatre and stolen some precious diamond earrings.
- ★ In **Geography**, we will be using maps/ atlases and computers to locate countries, including Japan, and cities from around the world. We will also be looking at and comparing the climates of the UK and Japan. We will also learn about Earthquakes and Tsunamis linking to the natural disaster that struck Japan in 2011.
- ★ In **Art**, we will explore the work of the artist, Hokusai. In particular focusing on his most famous work, *the great wave*.

Reminders for this half term

- ★ MyMaths workshop on Wednesday 22nd January @ 3pm – To help parents navigate the website more confidently.
- ★ Residential Talk for Y4 parents @ 3pm on Thursday 23rd January (All Y4 parents welcome even the undecided)
- ★ We are looking forward to our Parents in Golden time this term – 7th February 2020
- ★ Hilltop Coffee Shop: Friday 17th January & 14th February from 2pm onwards
- ★ Sport events that are in the process of being arranged for the children for this term will be released as soon as we know more!

Mr Morgan (DHT), Mrs Butler, Miss Williams, Miss Wilkie, Mrs Johnson and Miss Beard ☺