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26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have all had a happy and restful half term and managed to find some new things to do over the week.

As you know, we are continuing with remote learning/ home schooling until the 8<sup>th</sup> March, when we will return to school. During this time, we will continue as we did before half term. I will upload a weekly planner for you on Monday, which will give you an overview of the activities for the week. Each day Teach and I will upload a Maths, English, reading or SPAG and a foundation activity for you to complete.

We are following a slightly different structure on the week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> March, in recognition of school re-opening and also the fact that it is STEM week, which is always an important part of the school year. In addition to completing a variety of STEM activities across the school, the focus for the first week back is going be re-connecting as a school community, specifically with our classes, our teachers and friends. We will be engaging in a range of activities to support 'Promoting Connectedness'. This will enable children who are returning to school, and those whose classmates are returning, to feel connected as a class again. It will allow them to explore the positives of all coming back together and the opportunity to discuss any worries they may have. Our usual timetabled lessons, centred around our termly topic, will resume after this week, but we will continue to provide opportunities for the children to reflect on their feelings about what they have experienced during lockdown.

For our main topic this term, we are continuing to look at 'Stone age to Iron age'. This will include researching Prehistoric animals, comparing different jobs and ways of life and considering the role of Iron Age Celtic Warriors. Each of the lessons have the opportunity for the children to investigate new areas of history and to be creative with their new learning.

In English, we will be starting the term by finishing off our 'Stone Age Boy' stories. We are about half way through so by the end of the first week we will have finished these and edited them. We are then going to take a break from Stone Age themed texts and focus on a fiction text called 'Varjak Paw' by S.F. Said. This is a fantastic story all about a small Mesopotamian Blue cat who decides to go on an adventure outside his garden. There are some similarities between this and our Stone Age stories as Varjak Paw explores life outside his house and is confused by what he sees. Through this text, we will be looking at lots of different elements of SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) including possessive apostrophes and revisiting fronted adverbials. This will lead to us writing a non-chronological report.

In Maths, next unit is 'Statistics'. This will include focusing on Pictograms, Bar Charts and Tables. I hope that the children will enjoy this unit as it has a lot of real-life context to it and involves revisiting areas which they look at in year 2. After this unit, we will move on to look at Length. This unit is all about measuring, comparing and then adding and subtracting length. It involves working with metres and centimetres and is another hands-on unit.

In computing, we will be focusing on internet safety. This is something that we have looked at previously through guided reading and through 'Safer Internet Day'. I hope that this unit will be a good opportunity for you to talk about internet safety with your child but also for the class to gain a better understanding about how to stay safe while online.

In PSHE, we are going to be look at money. This unit involves thinking about different forms of money, borrowing money and mortgages and loans. In Art, we are going to be looking at insects and using different mediums to create some artwork around this theme. In RE, we are focusing on Christianity for this term. We will be looking at Easter and thinking about the events of Holy week and how they may be significant to different people.

I hope this helps with giving you an overview of what we will be covering this term. If there is anything I can do to help further, please do let me know. You can contact me on Seesaw or by sending an email through the office or Mrs Hamilton.

Wishing you all well. Keep safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Bracher Year Three Class Teacher