

RIDGE CLASS NEWLETTER AUTUMN 1 2020



Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely summer holiday and managed to catch some sunshine. It has been a very strange time for us all but we are very excited to have the children back in school with their new class and back to some sort of normality. We hope they will settle back in to life in school easily and quickly and we will support them as much as possible along the way.

Our topic this term will be '**Journey to the rainforest**'. Please find a topic plan attached, outlining a taste of what we will be learning throughout the term. Some of our learning will have to be adjusted given the current circumstances but we will do everything we can to make it as interactive and fun as possible.

Equipment

P.E.

On P.E. days, we ask that the children come dressed in their P.E. kits to avoid extra bags and changing around others. Therefore, we ask that the children wear suitable clothing for outdoor P.E. and remember to bring a coat and spare shoes for playtime and lunch time. We also have to ask that P.E. kit still meets our uniform requirements (a white t- shirt and navy jogging bottoms/shorts).

Outdoor Learning/Playtime

As the use of the hall is now more limited, we will potentially be spending lots of time outside and our weather, as we all know, is very unpredictable, so it is really important that the children are prepared for all possibilities. As we are trying to limit the number of adults in each bubble, at lunch times and playtimes each class will have one designated supervisor. Therefore, if it is raining and one child forgets their coat, the whole class will have to stay inside: this makes it extra important that the children are well-equipped every day.

School Bag/Pencil Cases

You have received information directly from Ms Hatfield with regards to pencil cases but we ask that the children only bring what is on the equipment list, in as small a pencil case as possible. I appreciate that you will probably have already bought the equipment, so any pencil cases that are distracting or large, will be stored in their drawers where necessary and we will confiscate anything that is just too fun to play with 😊!

The children will have to store their school bags on the back of their chairs and space is limited, so we ask that they only bring essential items in to school.

Homework

Homework will be sent home and needs to be returned on a Friday. We will be limiting the handling of books by adults, so it will be marked as a class as much as possible.

Spelling

This year, I will be sending home 5 words each week from the year 5/6 'tricky word' list. These are words that the children are required to spell correctly by the end of year 6. The children will receive new words every week and we will have a spelling test every **Friday**.

Any that are incorrect will be highlighted on their word list (at the front of their homework book) and they will continue to practise these in school but you may also wish to continue to practise them at home. The lists will also be available via our school website every week.

Alongside this word list, there will also be a spelling activity based on the spelling rule/pattern that we have been practising in school that week. This activity will have 2 different challenge levels. The children may pick one or complete both, depending on how much practise they think they need.

Maths

This will be a short activity to consolidate the maths that we have practised in class that week. The children will be familiar with the concepts and, where possible, I will provide hints and tips to support them. As with spelling, sometimes the activity will have different challenges, so the children can pick one or complete as many of the challenges as they want/need to.

Topic

I would normally send home a topic grid of activities that the children can complete at home throughout the term and send in to school. Due to the current circumstances, we will be unable to have any projects brought in to school, so I have selected activities that could be photographed or shared via email. These can be completed **any time** throughout the term and emailed to our class email address. I will put this information into the children's homework folders.

Reading

Please ensure children have their books and reading records in school every day. Children may choose from the range of books in school or they may read a book from home at an appropriate level and interest. Reading regularly at home is really important, and we encourage the children to read to an adult at least a few times a week. This year, this will be celebrated through a new reading challenge which will replace 'Star reader' and more details on this will be sent out soon.

Class Blog

This year, we are going to start a class blog where the children will be able to share some of the things that we do in school with you each week. There will also be a page where children can share their book reviews for other children/parents to read. I will also let you know each week who Ridge class' star of the week is and why. I will add a link to this blog on our class page on the school website ASAP.

Thank you for your support. If you have any questions regarding anything then please email me at ridge@leighterton.gloucs.sch.uk and I will reply as quickly as possible, or phone the office to arrange a chat.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Bence and Mrs Ward