



**September 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after what has hopefully been a wonderful summer for you all. I am so excited to meet everyone and can't wait to get started. Let's keep all of our fingers and toes crossed that this year we are able to get back to the schooling that we know and love - packed full of learning, laughter and new experiences!

*This term our overall theme is **Survival**. Our first big question of the year will be **'Who first lived in Britain?'**.*

**Class novel:** *Stig of the Dump (by Clive King) and The Iron Man (by Ted Hughes)*

**English:**

We will start our year by reading the text 'Stig of the Dump' focusing on a condensed version to help us understand story structure and composition. Alongside this we will read the full version for the pleasure of it! Once we have learnt all about the original text, we will use it as inspiration for our own Stone Age narratives. Later in the term, we will read 'The Iron Man', using this as a stimulus for a non-fiction piece of writing.

**Maths:** We will start by consolidating and strengthening our understanding of number and place value, before moving on to the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). Class 2 will have weekly times tables practices and will revisit our basic arithmetic regularly. Please remember to keep practising your times tables at home as much as you can.

**Science:** In science we are going to start by looking at rocks and soils. We are aiming to get outside as much as possible, allowing us to take a hands-on approach to understanding the world around us. Later in the term, we will be looking at forces and magnets.

**PE:** Each week, the children will be swimming. Over the term they will also be learning gymnastics and football.

**RE:** Our first RE focus of the year will be **Christianity** and we will be answering the question - How and why have some people served God? We will then move onto **Sikhism**, answering the question - Why are Gurus so important to Sikhs?

**History:** History will be our main focus this term. We will be studying early humans and how they survived in the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. We will look at settlements; the lifestyle of hunter gatherers; and how societies formed and became more civilised over time.

**Geography:** In geography, we will be focusing on locating early human settlements and how immigration changed life. We will also learn how physical geographical features affected early human land use.

**French:** Salut, ça va (hello, how are you?)    Moi (me)    L'alphabet et les couleurs (alphabet and colours)

**Art:** Prehistoric artwork. We will plan, sketch and create our own cave paintings, focusing on the use of charcoal and outlining.

**Design Technology:** Designing and making moving toys for our Christmas fair.

**Computing:** Online safety, networks and the internet and emailing.

**Music:** The children will have weekly ukulele sessions on a Wednesday afternoon with the Lancashire Music Service.

### **PE**

PE will take place on Monday afternoon and Thursday morning. On Monday, this will be led by Mrs Pollitt. On Thursday, the children will have swimming lessons at Salt Ayre Leisure Centre and will be accompanied by Mrs Cain. Please ensure that your child has their swimming kit with them every Thursday from week 2 and PE kit should be in school at all times.

### **Outdoor learning**

We will be taking our learning outdoors often so it would be useful for your child to have a pair of wellies that can be kept in school at all times.

### **Snacks**

Children can buy toast at breaktime for 20p a slice. They can also bring in a piece of fruit from home.

### **Homework**

This term, we will be focusing on key skills in maths and English, both in class and for homework. We would be very grateful if you would support your child at home with the following:

**Daily reading** - All children should read a quality text of an appropriate level that they bring into school each day and take home each night, completing their reading record daily. Children will read books from a structured reading scheme until we decide they are ready to become a 'free reader'. We ask that everyone reads for a minimum of twenty minutes daily. Reading records will be checked daily and if not completed, children will be supported with their daily reading at the lunchtime reading club.

**Weekly spellings** - These will be set on Monday and tested each Friday. Spellings for the whole term will be sent home and will also be available on the class page of the website. Please support your child in learning their five weekly spellings.

**Times tables** - These should be practised regularly at home; knowing these is crucial and the expectation of the national curriculum is that all children should know their times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4. This means being able to recite times tables. and knowing related division facts 5 times 6 is 30, 30 divided by 5 is 6.

**Maths and SPaG (spelling, punctuation and grammar)** - We will provide each child with a CGP maths and SPaG booklet for the year. Each week, children will be set a page of short questions from each book to complete for homework. This will be set on a Tuesday and due for Friday. We will go through the questions as a class on a Friday so booklets need to be back in school on that day.

If you would like to speak to me about anything at all, please do not hesitate to contact me either by email or in person at the beginning or end of the school day.

Best wishes,

Mrs Cain