



Ruby Class Newsletter

Thorpe Church of England Primary School

Faith, Love and Excellence

Summer Term April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers of Ruby Class,

Welcome back after the Easter break. We hope you all enjoyed a restful holiday! We have a busy few weeks ahead and look forward to an exciting and successful half term.

Key dates:

Monday 22nd April - Class Photographs

Monday 6th May - School closed for Bank Holiday

Thursday 23rd May - Africa Day! Please see below for more details.

Monday 27th May to 31st May - Half Term

Monday 3rd June - Return to School

OUR LEARNING

Our topic this half term is '*Our Wonderful World*'.

Our focus in **English** this half term will be:

- Letter writing
- Story writing based on 'The Tunnel' by Anthony Browne

Within their written work, children will be encouraged to use a range of conjunctions and different punctuation. They will also complete work on using and spelling the suffixes -ment, -ness, -ful, and -ly correctly.

We will continue our daily phonics work, paired reading and work on comprehension exercises with a focus on written comprehension.

In **Maths** we will be working through our Mastering Number program daily to help secure arithmetic skills. We will also be working on:

- Recognising and finding a half, quarter, a third and two quarters of shapes and amounts.
- Recognise unit and non unit fractions and count in fractions to a whole.
- Telling time to the hour, half hour, quarter to and quarter past and to 5 minutes using an analogue clock.

RE: Islam: Who is Allah and how do Muslims worship Him? Through this unit, children will begin to understand that Muslims believe in one God, who they call Allah, and that Allah's 99 beautiful names express who Allah is for Muslims. Through their learning, children will begin to understand how worship of Allah (ibadah) is central to how Muslim families live their lives and that a Mosque is an important place for Muslims when they want to pray together.

Science: What impact have Scientists from the past had on our life today? Children will be introduced to Scientists Maggie Aderin Pocock and Tim Peakes. They will learn about the different technologies they have worked on (satellites and rovers/radio waves) and through practical experiments, begin to recognise ways that they can ask scientific questions.

Geography: How does life in Sierra Leone differ from ours? We will be learning about the similarities and difference between Thorpe/London and Sierra Leone. We will explore physical and human features and compare life in an African school with ours.

Art: How is Sierra Leone different to Thorpe? We will be exploring paintings by Felix Rhodes and Esther Mahlangu and learning about the media they use to create their art work.

Music: How is music different in Africa and the UK? Children will complete work based around the song 'Hands, Feet, Heart' which is a song that celebrates South African Music. Through a series of fun games and activities, children will learn to sing the song, play it using their recorders and explore musical dimensions like pulse, rhythm and pitch.

PE: Dance: Pupils will explore space and how their body can move to express an idea, mood, character or feeling. They will expand their knowledge of travelling actions and explore pathways, levels, shapes, directions, speeds and timing. They will work independently and with others to perform.

Real PE: Coordination and agility - Children will develop and apply their skills of sending and receiving (coordination) and reaction and response (agility). They will do this through focused skill development sessions and cooperative and competitive games.

Our **PE** lessons will continue to be on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays** this half term. Please ensure that your child wears their **correct school uniform** PE Kit in school: Yellow T-shirts, Royal Blue or Navy Tracksuit Trousers (no logos), Navy shorts, Trainers or Black Plimsoll shoes). Please ensure long hair is tied back and no earrings are worn on PE days.

Supporting your child at home

- Please continue to listen to your child **read** as much as possible. Regular reading will enable your child to gain confidence in all areas of the curriculum.
Focus on reading the CEW with speed and fluency.
Encourage your child to retell what they have read after a few pages and once they have read the whole book to ensure they have listened to what they have read.
Ask your child questions that require them to retrieve and point to information in the text and also ask them some 'How' and 'Why' questions (inference) to ensure understanding.
We would really appreciate it if you could record when you have heard your child read using their homeschool link book. Many thanks.
- Help your child practise their **weekly focus phonic words** using the spelling books.
Please bring spelling books to school each **Monday** so new words can be stuck in.
The children will bring these back home on a **Tuesday**.
Read and write the focus words with your child, along with others you can think of.
It would also be really beneficial to get your child to write some of these words within a sentence.
They can do this in their spelling books or on paper/in a notebook at home.
- Continue to help your child read and spell the **Year 2 Common Exception words**. It would be great if you could focus on 2/3 words per week and write a **sentence** containing them. Can they add a conjunction and adjective to add more detail?
If you need a list of the Year 2 CEW please ask.
Your child can also practise spelling these words using the games of Spelling Shed (Use EdShed log-in).

- Help your child with their targets given out at Parents' evening (Maths and English).
- Help your child with their **arithmetic and fluency** by counting on and back in 2s, 5s and 10s. Practice counting on and back in 10s from any number e.g., 3, 13, 23 etc. Please also login to MathShed to work through curriculum content.
- Please look out for the **Homework Topic Grid** that will be sent home with activities the children can complete at home and bring in to share. These are linked to our learning in class.

School Values

This half term's value is **Trust** (Sum 1). We teach the children about being someone others can trust by being respectful (Aut 1), kind (Aut 2) honest (Spr 1) and responsible (Spr 2). Through these we talk about relationships and the importance of being a good friend and looking out for each other.

As always, thank you so much for your support and please let us know if there is anything we can do to support you.

Mrs George and Mrs Graham



As part of **Africa Day**, the children in Ruby Class are invited to dress up in African style clothes or as African animals on **Thursday 23rd May**.

They may like to wear bright patterned clothes, sun dresses, loose clothing, sun hats, etc.

During the day we will be diving deeper into what it is like in Sierra Leone and explore art, dance and music from Western Africa.