



Stoneraise School

Class Elm Newsletter Autumn 2nd Half Term

Dear Parents,

I hope you've all had a lovely half term break and enjoyed some quality family time. I cannot believe we are on countdown to Christmas already! It will be here before we know it!

This half term our topic will be toys and our question will be:

What goes into making a toy?

The children will be looking at old and new toys and asking you lots of questions about the toys you played with in the past!

We will use 'The Nutcracker' story to inspire us throughout our topic, and we will be using the music in PE for our dance sessions

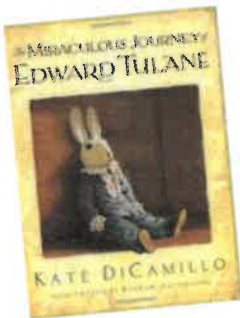
In DT we will be researching how some toys work, we will then go on to make our own Puppets using the characters from 'The Nutcracker' story.

English

Our book this half term is called Edward Tulane by Kate Dicamillo. Edward Tulane is a china rabbit that is owned by a girl called Abilene. Abilene adores her

china rabbit, she thinks the world of him.... And then, one day, he gets lost!!!

This adventure story explores the themes of friendship and loyalty. It offers great opportunities for drama and descriptive writing.



Maths

We'll begin the term by revisiting column subtraction using the inverse to check our answers. We'll also be practising telling the time and we'd appreciate if you could practise at home too. Following on from this we will look at multiplication and division, writing and calculating mathematical statements for division using known multiplication facts. Then we'll be looking at, describing and making 3D shapes.

In year 3 and 4 we have an increased focus on learning our times tables and we will continue to have a weekly times table test to aid and check on progression. Most children are doing brilliantly- well done!

Science

This half term the children will learn about electricity. They will learn about the importance of safety before constructing simple circuits. They will understand how to change a circuit by changing its components.

Computing

This half term the children will be 'toy makers' the children will work together to design a toy that incorporates sensors and outputs and then create an on-screen prototype of their toy in scratch. Finally they will pitch their idea to a dragons den style panel!

Homework

Each week the children will be set challenges both on Mathletics and



Spellodrome to consolidate learning in class. **In lower KS2 children are expected to read at least three times a week with an adult at home. Please comment in their reading records when you share a book with your child. Children that read 3 times a week with an adult will move up on our reading tree. A prize is given at the end of term to the children who get to the top of the tree!**

In year 3/4, children have the option of completing a homework project which is linked to our topic each half term. Projects are a great way in which to encourage independent learning and research skills. Children who participate have the choice of how to present their learning it could be a Power-point, information leaflet, artwork etc. We had some great projects completed for our Ancient Egypt topic and we look forward to seeing some fantastic efforts for our toys topic too.

We'd be grateful for your support with all homework.

PE

Our PE sessions this term will be on Monday (led by CUFC) and Friday afternoons. Please could you ensure that your child is ready and equipped with shorts, T-shirt and plimsolls for indoor sessions and trainers and jogging bottoms for outside.

Finally, if you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to come and see one of us.

Wendy Pratt and Linzi Jones