



Stoneraise School

Hazel Newsletter Autumn 1st Half Term

Dear Parents,

Welcome back, I hope that you have all had a wonderful holiday and enjoyed some quality time. Welcome to new children to Class Hazel. This will be my first term working at Stoneraise School, and I am very much looking forward to the exciting term ahead!

Our first topic of the year will be focusing on WW2, particularly the question:

What was it like, to live through WW2?

Our first trip will be to the Life Museum in Newcastle where we will take part in a Code Breaking Workshop – this will take place on 19/9/18 (a letter will follow).

English

To link with this topic, the text we will be studying this term is 'Goodnight Mister Tom' by Michelle Magorian.

Following on the story of a young evacuee, Willie Beech, 'Goodnight Mister Tom' provides an opportunity for the children to place themselves in the shoes of children during WW2. The children will complete narrative writing linked to the text including character descriptions and a diary entry, focusing on the possible thoughts and feelings of children during this time. We will also be writing speeches using persuasive language.



Mathematics

In maths we will be recapping on our place value Knowledge, working with decimals and negative numbers. Also, we will explore mental arithmetic methods for each of the operations (+ - X ÷). The main focus this term will be on formal and informal written methods for different calculations.

Science

In science we will be studying materials, this will also link to our topic as we are going to test which materials and filters would be best for a gas mask. We will be learning about

how we identify different materials and explain their uses; making and separating mixtures; classifying changes as reversible and irreversible and reporting on our findings using scientific language.

Homework/Reading

This year we are continuing with our whole-school reading programme called, 'Accelerated Reader'. The children will be able to choose texts from the school Library which have been banded according to their reading ability. Once they have read a text they can then complete an online quiz which will enable them to accumulate points and win prizes! They should aim to read at least 3 times per week at home, as well as reading daily in school.



I will child during Mathletics. There will be



set tasks for your to complete the week on no Spelloidrome this year but we will be implementing a new spelling system this half term.

Each child will also be required to complete a project based on our current topic. This will last for the full half term. It is their choice how they choose to present their project. Some suggestions are: an information book, PowerPoint presentation, a piece of art or a poster. This is a fantastic opportunity for the children to get creative and foster independent learning. If any children are struggling to get started I am happy to put some time aside during break time to help them come up with an idea. **The homework project will be due on the final Monday of each half term.**

Our **PE** sessions will be on a **Tuesday** and **Wednesday** afternoon.

Finally, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to come and speak to me.

Samantha Armstrong.