



Stoneraise School

# Class Beech Newsletter Autumn 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term

## Dear Parents,

I hope you've had a lovely summer holiday and you've managed to catch some sun! Welcome to our new children and parents from Year 1.

It's an exciting term ahead, with the same team of Mrs Carrick, Mrs Lindsley and myself, but a new mix of children, all raring to go...

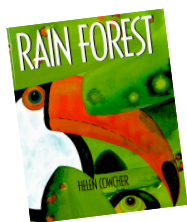
## Topic

We're studying the Rainforest which will give us opportunities to look at History, Science, art, Geography and DT. Our class has sprouted creeping vines and rainforest sounds all ready to inspire and excite. We'll be finding out about Alfred Russel Wallace, the Amazonian explorer so be prepared to hear every bit of trivia known to mankind, about him, the Rainforest and its animals and plants.

## English

We have a range of books to look at this term, both fiction and non-fiction. The class will be writing facts and finding out about Helen Cowcher's 'Rainforest' and 'We're roaming in the Rainforest' by Laurie Krebs.

Year 1 will be focusing on independent writing using their phonic skills to spell unfamiliar words, and Y2 will be continuing to write narratives using expanded noun phrases.



## Reading

Accelerating Reading begins for the Y2s this term. Your child will take part in a simple online questionnaire to decide which band of reading books he'll be on. Books will be taken home, and your child will take an online test after reading each book. Tests are best taken at home if you have the internet available. Your child can read as many books as he likes as long as he takes the test before choosing a new book. After each test, your child wins points that go toward prizes. Last year was the first time we tried accelerated reading, and it proved to be a great success. Year 1 children will be assessed in the first week, and will be sent home with one or two books a week. These will NOT be accelerated reading books, Please read with your child at least three times a week and write your

comments in the reading record book. Mrs Carrick and Mrs Lindsley will read with your child individually, once a week, and I will take Guided Reading groups.

## Phonics

Phonics sessions will take place every morning in small groups, depending on the phase they are working at. Assessments will take place in the first week to make sure the phase is the right level for your child.

## Maths

We'll be looking at number and place value, measures, length, addition, subtraction, geometry, 2D and 3D shape. Mathematics homework will be sent home each week.

## Computing

The children will be using different search engines to find out information before saving them into their computer folders.

## PE

PE will take place on Tuesday and Friday. Please ensure your child has their full PE kit (including trainers). Carlisle United will be teaching ball skills on a Friday.

## Music

Miss Marriot will teach recorders on Wednesday mornings. (You may or not need earplugs for the first few weeks...)



## Science

The children will be looking at Mini worlds, living things and their habitats. This will give us a great opportunity to compare habitats and creatures from the UK and the rainforest.

## Art

We continue to use art within all areas of the curriculum, but we will be making animals and insects from a variety of mixed media.

## RE

Mrs Ferguson will be teaching the Christian story of Creation.

Any concerns or questions, please pop in after school.  
Many thanks

Lynn Nixon, Sue Carrick and Sharon Lindsley