



Stoneraise School

# Class Elm Newsletter Summer 1st Half Term

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone has enjoyed the longer sunny days over the Easter holidays and managed to enjoy some family time together. It seems strange to be back without having had a fill of chocolate eggs yet.

This half term our topic will be 'Great Britain's Geography' and our question will be:

**'What are the main human and physical features of the UK?'**



We will build upon our ability to use maps, atlases and computers whilst discovering all about Great Britain, including naming and locating cities and counties. We will also find out about geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics and key topographical features including hills, rivers, mountains and coasts.

A trip to the Lakes to help apply our map reading skills is organised and a separate letter will follow.

## English

Our text this half term is called 'Storm', a short ghost story beautifully written by Kevin Crossley-Holland. It encompasses both drama and adventure, providing many opportunities for writing, including poetry, information writing and newspaper reports. We will be also linking it to our topic by mapping journeys and looking at how Ordnance Survey maps use keys and symbols to show features such as marshlands.

## Maths

We'll begin the term by looking at mass and capacity as well as revisiting place value. Following on from this we will be focusing on word problems connected to all four number operations. Compass directions and grid referencing will be taught through our topic work and help build upon the children's knowledge of the UK.

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 our super science topic is called, 'Living Things'. This topic teaches the children to recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. They explore and use keys to identify and name a variety of living things. Finally, they look at how changes to habitats can pose dangers to living things.

## Homework

Each week the children will be set challenges on Mathematics to consolidate learning in class, this should rarely take the children more than 20 minutes to complete. They will occasionally receive a spelling homework sheet 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. The 'Accelerated Reading quizzes can be completed at home or in school enabling them to accumulate points and win prizes!

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..

## 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 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