



Stoneraise School

Class Oak Newsletter Spring 2nd Half Term

Dear Parents,

We've now reached the half-way point of the year! Where on earth has the time gone? The children have continued to rattle on with their learning and have been making excellent progress.

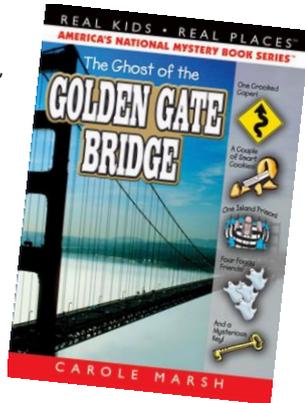
This half term's topic is based around the question:

Why don't bridges fall down?

The topic will have a Design Technology focus, linking geography and history too. Through our learning journey, we will be exploring when people started to use bridges, then we will begin to look at some of the most famous bridges around the UK and even the world! Using our geographical knowledge, we will identify some of the major towns and cities which are home to some of the world's most iconic structures.

English

Our main text we will use is called, "The Ghost of the Golden Gate Bridge." One synopsis of the book states: *What is planned as a pleasure trip to the city by the bay (San Francisco), turns out to be a topsy-turvy mystery with new friends helter-skelter through Chinatown, Lombardy, and even Alcatraz Prison one dark, foggy night.*



Maths

During maths lessons we will be looking at calculating with fractions. The children will learn all of the necessary methods to be fluent in their fraction arithmetic. Following this we will look at interpreting timetables, understanding statistics (line graphs and pie charts) then will look at some basic algebra.

Science

During science we will be exploring forces, linking very nicely to our bridges topic! We look at balanced and unbalanced forces, gravity and friction. We will find out about Isaac Newton and his discoveries about gravity. The children will look for patterns and links between the mass and weight of objects, using newton metres to measure the force of

gravity. Furthermore, they will work collaboratively to investigate air and water resistance, participating in a variety of different challenges. They will have the opportunity to work in a hands-on way to explore friction.

Homework Project

The children's homework projects this half term should be based around their learning on bridges. They could create their own bridge using a variety of materials (Lego, stone, wood, art straws etc.). The children could research a famous bridge from somewhere on the globe and tell us why they find it so fascinating. They could create a presentation about different types of bridges and decide which type is the most effective and explain why.



Carlisle Castle and Tullie House Visit

Please don't forget that we have our visit to Carlisle Castle and Tullie House on 26th February 2018. The children will need to wear their school uniforms, bring a bag and coat. If you haven't made a contribution of £7 towards the visit, we'd be grateful if you would do so as soon as possible.

Robinwood



This half term also sees our annual residential trip. As you know, this year we're heading to the Robinwood Centre at Dobroyd Castle. If you'd like to take a look at their website it's: http://www.robinwood.co.uk/activity_centers/dobroyd-castle/ We're hoping to hold a parent's meeting about the trip on 13th March at 6pm. Again, if you've not yet paid, please could you do so as soon as possible.

Please contact me if you have any questions. You can either contact me via the school office or my email address is jwebb@stoneraise.cumbria.sch.uk James Webb