



Stoneraise School

# Class Elm Newsletter Summer 2nd Half Term

Dear Parents,

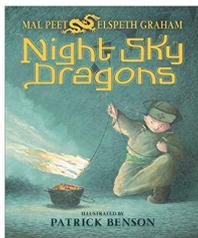
I hope everyone has had a fabulous holiday! It is hard to believe that we are into the final term already; this year seems to have flown by.

This half term, we will be continuing with a geography theme for our topic work. However, we will be extending our knowledge to include that of other countries, comparing and contrasting their human and physical features to those in the UK.



## English

I cannot wait to start reading our next text called 'Night Sky Dragons', by Mal Peet and Elspeth Graham. It is a beautifully written, almost lyrical story about a young boy and his desire to please his stern father. Set in China, in a han (a place of safety), located along the Silk Road, the story is a universal one of family and forgiveness. Although fictional, its historical and cultural references help to bring the story to life. It also has sophisticated vocabulary and wonderful description to inspire our own narrative writing.



## Maths

Our half term begins with our end of year assessments and following on from this we will be revisiting the areas of maths that the children have found the trickiest to grasp. The Year 4s will also be trialling out the 'Multiplication Table Check', which becomes statutory for schools to administer in the next academic year. Please continue to help encourage your child to learn their times tables at home. A similar test can be found on [www.timestables.co.uk](http://www.timestables.co.uk) (the children know what to do from there). We will continue to have a weekly times table test to aid and check on progression. Most children are doing brilliantly- well done!

## Science

Our topic this half term is 'Opposites Attract'. We will be looking at magnets and their uses, as well as what makes magnetic poles special.

## Homework

Each week the children will be set challenges on Mathematics to enhance 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 this learning process.

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 Tuesday (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.

## Dates for the diary

7<sup>th</sup> June – Class Elm Assembly

8<sup>th</sup> July – Provisional date for class trip, more details to follow.

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

Wendy Pratt and Linzi Jones