

Maths

How can you help your child in maths?
Here are some great ideas.

- Times tables need to be known off by heart including division facts; for example $5 \times 6 = 30$, $30 \div 5 = 6$, $30 \div 6 = 5$
- Telling the time to the nearest minute for year 3 children and telling the time to the nearest minute in digital time for year 4 children. Try and take every opportunity you can to ask your child what time it is.
- Formal written methods continue for all children in all operations so +, -, x and ÷

Special sessions!

PE coaching continues for all KS2 children on Wednesdays and 3/4S will begin their French for this year on Tuesdays. 3/4 F will be taking their DT lessons at Catshill Middle School for the next four weeks. Some of the year 4 children will be learning to swim at the Dolphin Centre. As always please ensure PE kits are always in school to enable your child to benefit from these sporting opportunities.

Our topic this half term is Tremors!

Welcome back to the second half of spring term. The children are already very excited about with the learning about volcanoes and rocks.

We are very excited about our KS2 forthcoming performance of Roald Dahl's version of Little Red Riding Hood. We have started learning the songs which do sound fabulous. We are looking forward to seeing you all at the performances which will be held on Tuesday 22nd March in the afternoon and then again in the evening.

English

How can you help your child in English?

Here are some great ideas

- We have a reading challenge over a half term where children are expected to read 3 times a week at home.
- Talk to your child about the book you are reading, are they enjoying it? Why? What can they tell you about the setting or the characters?
- Ask your child to select the noun, verb, adjective, adverb and conjunction in the sentence you have just read.
- Talk to your child about what type of book they are reading. For example, is it a fiction book or a non-fiction book? Ask them to describe the features that tell you how they know this. For example, contents pages and index for non-fiction and characters and chapters for fiction books.

Topic

This term we are covering the fabulous topic about volcanoes and tremors; here are some of the things we will be doing:

- . making volcanoes with DT resources
- . learning about how volcanoes happen
- . examining different rocks and soil samples and learning about their properties
- . looking at the distribution of volcanoes in the world including the 'Ring of Fire'

Unlocking the learning at home....we are looking forward to receiving some fantastic examples of home learning. Fabulous examples of home learning are always on display in the main entrance and for any of the children who need resources to complete their home learning we can help out with supporting this. We believe it is very important that every child has the opportunity to engage with learning at home.

KEY STAGE 2 Home Learning Projects

3/4S, 3/4F, 3/4J

The children in Key Stage two will be taking part in 'Creative Homework Projects' that we would like them to complete over the coming weeks. The project for this half term is Tremors, a project on volcanoes and earthquakes.

We look forward to seeing the results and would like the children to bring their completed projects into school the week ending Friday 18th March 2016 so that they can share and celebrate each other's talents before the end of term. We would ask that this project reflects four weeks' worth of work, and demonstrates the children's own work, although we really appreciate your support in helping them complete their homework.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Stacey, Mrs Wainman and Mrs Thomas

Mrs Foley and Mrs Fannon

Mrs Jones and Miss Moore

<p><u>Let it blow</u></p> <p>With a parent or carer create your own mini erupting volcano using baking soda and vinegar. Take photos to show how you made it.</p>	<p><u>Volcano facts</u></p> <p>Design a poster to show a volcanoes main features. Make sure you label the important parts.</p>	<p><u>Eruption facts</u></p> <p>Research a volcanic eruption of your choice and produce a fact file about the eruption, including its location, the eruption details, why it erupted and the impact of the eruption.</p>
<p><u>Why live by a volcano?</u></p> <p>Find out why people still live close to a volcano despite the risks. Think about soil, land, building material, electricity and tourism.</p>	<p><u>Richter scale</u></p> <p>What is the Richter scale? What is it used for, and what does it tell us?</p>	<p><u>You survived!</u></p> <p>Imagine you have just survived an earthquake. Write a short story about what happened. Make sure you include factual information such as the earthquake's strength.</p>
<p><u>Be a designer</u></p> <p>Design an earthquake-proof house. How could you prevent the building from collapsing during an earthquake?</p>	<p><u>Project dictionary</u></p> <p>Create a project dictionary that explains key volcano vocabulary in your own words.</p>	<p><u>Artistic</u></p> <p>Create volcano or earthquake art. How could you show an eruption using art?</p>