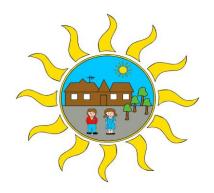
STEDHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher Mrs Sally Dreckmann

September 2017

Dear Parents,

It's finally here! The start of the school year has arrived. I would like to welcome everyone back and I hope that the summer holidays were action-packed and went as quickly for you as they did for me. Before I get into the nitty-gritty of the exciting term ahead, I would like to take this chance to introduce myself. My name is Mr. Cella and I've been local to the area all my life and have been schooled in the Rother Valley myself, so I am excited to have the opportunity to give back some of what I have gained through this school area. I've been a qualified football referee for 10 years, officiating across both East and West Sussex and I hope I'll be able to leave my yellow and red cards at home this year!

Onto the term then, and the topic for Autumn term is called **Flint to Iron**, which will explore the changes in Britain between the Stone Age (~50,000BC) to the Iron Age (~43AD, the time of the Roman invasion), so as you can imagine it will be a whistle-stop tour from the Stone Age to the Bronze Age and finishing off with the Iron Age.

Maths and English lessons

Children will be mainly taught in ability groups for most of their Maths and English lessons. This is to enable us to best meet the requirements of the individual children. Where possible, some areas within these lessons may be linked to our topic.

In English, we shall be looking at how to convey information through leaflets or pamphlets and how a diary is written, looking specifically at first person writing and using lots of description. We will also be covering instruction writing with 'bossy' verbs, finishing the term with story narratives. While the grammar and punctuation side of this subject will be integrated into every lesson taught, children will have one explicit grammar and punctuation lesson a week to help them understand the technical side of writing. They will have spellings to take home each Tuesday. There will be one session a week on guided reading, to help the children develop their skills in decoding and comprehending the text. Your continued help to hear the children read at home is still greatly appreciated! Targets for their reading will be set and highlighted and again, any help towards achieving these would be fantastic.

Across the term in maths we shall be covering place value, addition & subtraction, multiplication & division with the children becoming more fluent with their mental arithmetic. Children will have times tables to learn each week and an informal test will be given, to check











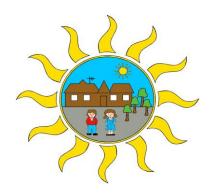
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their times tables knowledge, every Thursday. I endeavour to give the children some time outside in maths and if the great British weather holds I hope that we will be able to do so.

Art

In Art, we will be looking at experimenting with different media. We will look at how we can achieve different styles of shading with pencils, using watercolours, mixing colours and what colours work well with each other.

Languages (French)

In French, Badgers will be building on their work from last year and increasing their fluidity and complexity of the French language through speech, reading and writing.

Computing

In computing this term, we will be authoring wikias on a topic of interest to the children. Think along the lines of a Wikipedia article and you're on the right track.

PE

Children need to have their PE kit in school every day please. As usual one lesson a week (Thursday) will be taught by Aspire, which will be built around skills in football and basketball. The children will also have further PE time during the week looking at creating, evaluating and improving a short dance routine. This theme will be Star Wars!

History

In History, we will be looking at the Stone Age to the Iron Age, including the Bronze Age. The main focuses will be how people lived, creation of settlements, growing use of tools and how early humans fed themselves through the ages.

Geography

Geography will look at mountains, earthquakes and volcanoes. This will also encompass the skills of map and compass reading and using 4- and 6-figure grid references to locate areas of interest.

Science

Science this term will be all about rocks. We will look at comparing and classifying rocks based on their appearance and properties. We will look at fossils and the importance of Mary Anning as an archaeologist.











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Music

Music will look to build on the skills of DT, French and History as we explore the music of building, music of the past and singing in French.

DT

Badgers will be building their own Stone/Bronze Age houses out of clay. We will begin by looking at different designs and styles of building, with the children choosing their preferred design and creating it as a template and then out of clay. We will then evaluate how good the design was and whether there would be anything different the children would do if they were to build them again.

As said earlier, we would greatly appreciate your assistance in helping the children learn their times tables, spellings and hearing them read. There will be time every day for the children to quiet read and to change their book if needed. Please also continue to keep practising times tables and spellings at home. That about covers this term. I will be posting as frequently as possible on Class Dojo with what is happening in class. It's great to see so many of you already connected and I hope that we will be able to connect everyone so we can share in the successes of the children throughout the term and the year.

Thank you again for your continued support, and I look forward to the speaking with you through the year.

Mr Cella









