**Summer Term – Stingray Parent Newsletter**

**‘***Growing and learning together with God’*

Dear Parents,

We all hope you had a great Easter and, like us, are looking forward to some warmer weather! We hope you had a good break from school and that the children are well rested and ready for another hard working term.

**Communications**

It has been great to welcome parents back onto the playground and in person, for vents such as our sharing assembly and parents’ evenings. It feels as if we are slowly returning to ‘normal’. We all hope that everything continues to run smoothly this year but would stress that if you do have any problems or concerns that you share these with one of us as soon as possible. Please direct these to the office, via e mail, who will forward on your messages or use the home learning email, so that we can either respond by e mail, telephone or arrange a meeting to discuss tour concern in more detail. Keep an eye on the weekly school newsletters to find out what we have been learning about each week. We will also be updating the Stingrays Class page on the website a couple of times each term with news and photos of our learning journey.

**Homework**

***Termly projects***

Project homework will continue to be set whereby children can choose from a variety of themes which projects they would like to complete; these will be shared with the class and children will receive feedback. Details about our ‘Disasters ‘project options will be sent out on Friday 6th May and we look forward to sharing all the fantastic activities they complete at home. The presentation of this work to the rest of the class is an invaluable part of their learning experience and all the children develop their self-confidence and speaking skills as part of the process.

 ***Spellings, Times Tables and Maths Key Skills***

All children have **Spelling/Maths Shed** and **Times Table Rock Stars** log-ins which they should be using regularly to keep practising key skills.

* On Mondays we will be checking that the children have done at least **20 minutes per week** practise on their times tables. Times tables booklets are available for any children who do not have access to the internet.
* On Thursdays we will be checking that children have accessed Spelling Shed for **a minimum of three times a week**. Spelling practise sheets will also be available in school if children do not have internet access at home.
* On **Fridays** we will check that the children have read at least three times per week.

Family group points will be given to those children who complete their homework, as well as additional recognition for those who read consistently over the term.

*****Reading*** – Children should be encouraged to read nightly and where possible to an adult, even if they are a fluent reader. This could include your child just talking to you about what they’ve read, what they are enjoying etc. Children are asked to show in their reading record that they have read **at least 3 x each week**. They will be rewarded in school when they have shown this in their diary. We ask that they keep their reading books and reading records in their book bags at the moment and we will ensure that they are changed regularly.

We are also lucky to have a **Fonetti** subscription which also provide children with the opportunity to enjoy reading activities at home.

**Water bottles and snacks**

Please remember to send your child in with a named water bottle (not squash) which they can keep in the classroom. This can be re-filled during the day. If children are bringing in snack for break time, please remember this should be healthy food like a piece of fruit.



**Curriculum**

Our main topic ***‘Disasters ’*** is a **Geography and Science based** topic that will send us on a journey through many physical disasters including earthquakes, volcanoes and flooding. We will explore the reasons why and investigate the effects on humans and animals loving it that area of the world.Most of our **English** work will be based on books set with a ‘Disasters theme’ and these will be the inspiration for our writing. In ***Art*** we will be looking at the artist Salvador Dali and use his artwork for to help us develop our sketching and clay skills. ***DT*** this term focuses on our understanding and use of materials, as we will be designing a survival blanket to help us survive when disaster strikes. We are also hoping to organise a trip or workshop linked to our topic.

In **RE** we will be looking at what Pentecost means for Christians and developing our understanding of the Sikh faith. Our SCARF **PHSE** will focus on Growing and Changing which is part of our Relationships and Sex Education. The RSE policy can be found on the website and a copy of the correct terminology that we encourage children to use can be found on our class page. *W*e will also have weekly **Circle Time** sessions to support the children in developing positive self-esteem and interactions. In **French** this term we will be exploring times of the day and will be celebrating Bastille Day in July.

**PE/Forest School Kit**

***Term 5***

This term we will be doing Forest School on **Mondays** and P.E on **Fridays.**

****PE will usually be on **Friday**. However as there may be occasions when we need to change this your child’s kit needs to be brought into school every Monday and taken home every Friday to be washed. Please make sure that they have navy blue shorts, t-shirt, trainers and appropriate clothing for going outside (navy tracksuit bottoms, sweatshirt, wellies etc.). Please remember to label all PE kit, school tops, jumpers and trainers/shoes. This is also important for all uniform and coats.

As the weather gets warmer please could you also make sure that your child brings a sunhat/cap to school.

We are looking forward to the new term,the opportunities to learn together and welcoming you into school for Sports’ Day and other summer activities.

Kathryn Churchill, Caroline Allen – Class Teachers

Stacey Palmer, Kate O’Callaghan and Jade Winterbourne – Stingrays’ TAs