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21<sup>st</sup> February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to term 4. We hope you all had a fun and restful week over half term – that sunshine was an added bonus! We have a brand new topic this term and we are really excited to get started!

Our topic for term 4 is Africa. This is a topic has a geography focus, which will allow the children to explore a new continent and compare it to the UK and their own lives. Throughout the topic, we will be looking at different aspects of Africa including physical features, climate, population as well as some cultural elements.

In English, we are starting the term looking at look at African folktales before creating out own tale. We will then learn about Nelson Mandela through the texts, 'Nelson Mandela Long Walk to Freedom' and 'Little People, Big Dreams Nelson Mandela'. We will be thinking about why he is a significant figure for people both in South Africa and across the world. We will be focusing on his release from prison and writing this as a newspaper report.

In our Guided Reading, we will start the term reading African folktales and answering comprehension questions. Later in the term, we will begin reading the 'The Butterfly Lion' by Michael Morpurgo. This will be our first whole class reading lessons and each day we will read a section of the text and respond to it through a mix of discussions and written responses.

In Maths, we are continuing to solidify our knowledge of the 2,3,4,5 and 8 times tables. In our morning work, we will be revisiting the column method to work out calculations involving 1 and 2 digit numbers. Our new topic this term is Measurement and we will be specifically learning about units of length and perimeter.

For Science this term, we start off the term by completing our 'Animals including Humans' unit, by learning about muscles and carrying out an investigation about this. We will then move on to learning about plants. For plants we will focus on: functions of different parts of flowering plants, what plants need to survive & grow, how water is transported within plants and the life cycle of flowering plants (including pollination, seed formation & dispersal). This will include an investigation on growing our own plants.

Our Art, this term follows our topic and will be taught by Mrs Mannering. We will be learning about the process of Batik and having a go at creating our own.

We will have Forest School on Tuesdays. PE will be on Thursday and we will be focussing on football.

In PSHE, we will be focusing on exploring different aspects of our identity. We will identify our own strengths, how we can help others and how our behaviour and actions affect other people.

We continue weekly Music and French lessons over the term. In Music we will continue to use Charanga to guide our learning, and in French we will have a few focus lessons about Easter but will continue to learn how to say and respond to both classroom instructional phrases and common greetings.

In RE will learn about Judaism by considering the question, 'How do festivals and family life show what matters to Jews?'

In Computing we will learn how to use Book Creator. Our end goal is to create a book based on an African Folk Tale. We will also spend some time exploring and using a green screen.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to see us.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Sarah Sakaki and Mrs Mannering