



Home School Guide – Autumn 1 2020/21

Stargazers – Y4/5

Theme/ Topic – Volcanoes

The Year 4/5 team are excited to welcome Stargazers class back to school in Autumn! We will be spending a lot of time learning about rocks and fossils in Science, and volcanoes and earthquakes in Geography to see what causes these natural disasters and how they were formed in the first place.

English – The children will be reading two fabulous texts: Stone Girl Bone Girl and The Pebble In My Pocket: A History of Our Earth to link their Science and Geography learning to their writing. We will be continuing to use Talk 4 Writing to plan, innovate, develop and publish wonderful writing, both fiction and non-fiction. We will be writing autobiographical texts about Mary Anning, and suspenseful warning tales about a village near an active volcano.

Maths – Understandably, most children have been away from school for a long period of time, so we will be revisiting a lot of learning through the year. To start off in September, we will be delving into place value and addition and subtraction. The Y4 children will be completing the multiplication check test at the end of the year, and therefore times tables will be a large focus throughout the year for both years 4 and 5 and practise at home would be appreciated.

Topic – As previously mentioned, we are delving in to the world of rocks, fossils and volcanoes in Science and in Geography. This will help them understand how the Earth is formed and how natural disasters can occur. We are also going to link this topic to our Design and Technology lessons where we are going to sculpt a volcano using *papier-mâché*, and use baking soda and vinegar to make it erupt!

Things to remember

- Start time for our class only is **8.50am** and pick up time is **3.20pm**. **All children should be dropped off and picked up at the pedestrian gate at the front of school only.**
- **Library books** will be changed every Monday, please make sure it is returned each week.
- **PE** is on Mondays and Wednesdays this half term. **Children must come to school dressed in their PE kits on this day. They will NOT be getting changed in school.** Please remove children's jewellery in the morning if they cannot remove it on their own.
- Please make sure your child has a **water bottle** in school each day filled with fresh water – **no juice please.**
- **Morning snack** – please send your child with a piece of fruit, vegetables, cheese or fruit juice. There will be **no Tuck Shop in September.** Crisps, biscuits, chocolate etc will not be allowed to be eaten in school at break time and will be returned home the same day. **Please remember we are a nut free school.**
- **Swimming will not begin until after October half term.**

Websites to access

<https://trockstars.com/>

<https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb>

www.purplemash.com

- Usernames and passwords to these accounts will be given to your child with this sheet.

Key Dates

Fri 18th September – Jeans for Genes day – wear denim in school £1 donation

Tues 29th September – Harvest Festival – class donations for hampers to be delivered into the community (more details to follow)

Fri 9th October – whole school well being day

Thurs 22nd October - After school Halloween class parties (more details to follow)

Fri 23rd October - end of term

School reopens on Monday 2nd November at 8.40am