



Columbus Class Bulletin

Cranford Park CE Primary School, Cranford Dark Drive, Yateley, Hampshire GU46 6LB

April 2019

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely Easter break and are ready for the Summer term.

Last term we had a wonderful term full of fun and excitement and we all thoroughly enjoyed our Italy topic. The children had worked so hard on their homework projects and they presented them confidently and enthusiastically. The Columbus Class Pop-up Pizzeria was a particular success and it was lovely to see so many parents come along. Thank you for all your support, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.

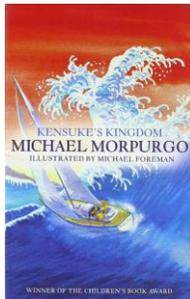


This Term's Topics...

This half term our topic is 'I'm a Survivor'. This is a literacy driven topic based around the book 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo.

Our Art project this half term is to redesign the front cover of the book so we will be studying, imitating and creating pieces of art based on Hokusai's "Great Wave".

While this is a wonderful story, please don't be tempted to read the book at home quite yet as much of our work on it depends on an element of mystery!



Following on from the theme of the novel the class are really looking forward to the 'Survival Day' (more details to follow nearer the event). It will be interesting to see how the class organise and manage themselves during a range of team building and problem solving exercises! They also take part in a shelter building competition as part of the day.

Something to definitely look forward to!

The second half of the term...

History

...will see us studying the Mayans – an ancient civilisation from Central America.

Science

...we will look at Human growth from birth to old age

R.E.

Our R.E topic will be exploring the concept of Salvation.

P.E.

Please can you make sure that your child has their PE kit in school every day! We do PE on a **Friday** and Swimming will continue up until half-term on a **Thursday**.

On Thursdays children will need their swimming kit but they should (hopefully!) no longer need cosy clothes to walk home. Their uniforms should now be fine. Please ensure that everything is clearly labelled with your child's name.

After half term we will be doing outdoor PE on a Thursday.

As it may get hot, it is advised that children bring water bottles with them and also that they have shorts and t-shirt as opposed to tracksuit bottoms.

No earrings or watches should be worn during P.E. for health and safety reasons. If your child is unable to remove their earrings by themselves, please supply some tape to cover them during these lessons. However, it would be much easier if ear-rings could be left at home on P.E. days.

Library

Please can you help to remind your child to bring their library book back to school when they have read it?



Homework

Thank you very much for the support you have given your child with their homework so far. We will be continuing to set homework this term.

Homework will be set on a Wednesday and due in on the following Monday as normal. Although most children do complete their homework, there are still some who do so inconsistently. In preparation for year 6 and secondary school, where the amount of homework as well as its importance increases, we will be speaking to those children who do not hand in their homework on time. As well as it being a matter of respect to ourselves, and all the children who do complete their homework on time, the work that is set is supposed to support and further their learning and it is important that *all* children have a go at completing it.

Reading

It is also important that the children continue to read regularly at home. This can be their reading book, library book or a book/magazine from home. They will need to have their reading book and reading record with them every day. Please sign the record book each week and we welcome any comments which you feel may be useful.

Remember, the children all have Bug Club accounts and can access a wide range of interesting texts on their tablets and computers at home.

Can you help us?

If you are able to offer any time to come in and help, we are always extremely grateful! Please come and see us to arrange a time you could come in.

Art

To keep the children's uniforms clean it would be helpful if the children could bring in an old shirt

that they could wear over their uniforms when they are being creative. Please write your child's name on this so that we can keep it in school. Thank you.

Times Tables

Columbus are having a big push on our times table knowledge this term. We want as many children as possible to be a 'Master' on the class times-table challenge. Your child will know where they are in the challenge and they need to be practising at home as much as possible if they want to progress.

Play Equipment

Could you please ensure that children are not using the play equipment in the school grounds before and after the school day. We cannot ensure that it is being used safely during these busy times and do not want children injuring themselves.

Uniform

Just a final reminder: please check that all items are still named! (Handwritten names tend to become hard to read after a few washes.) It is rather difficult to reunite children with their jumpers or cardigans if they are unnamed.

We look forward to another successful term!

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs Rees and
Mrs O'Connor*

Class teacher

Award	Task
Bronze	40 questions 2 minutes 2x, 5x, 10x
Silver	40 questions 3 minutes 3x, 6x
Gold	60 questions 4minutes 4x, 8x, 9x
Master	100 questions All tables 5 minutes
Grand Master	Division Facts 100 questions 5 minutes

Survival Vocabulary

We are starting to send words home at the beginning of each unit to help develop children's communication skills. Most important is that they use them orally and within sentences when talking about the half terms topic. There will be some simple words that they should be able to read and spell correctly. We will be using lots of the vocabulary throughout our topic at school and it would be beneficial if you could be talking about and using them at home too.

Anchor Words	Goldilocks Words	Step Up Words
<i>-Children have a thorough understanding of these words.</i> <i>-Everyday language used at home and school in daily interactions.</i> <i>-Children will have become familiar with these words through prior teaching and exposure.</i>	<i>-These are really useful words.</i> <i>-Likely to be encountered again in reading or oral language.</i> <i>-Words that are topic specific but important to the topic.</i>	<i>-Words that are particularly topic specific and less likely to encounter in daily interactions.</i> <i>- Advanced vocabulary they are likely to encounter again later on in education.</i>

Anchor Words	Goldilocks Words	Step Up Words
boat oar sail island sea ocean adventure	voyage log book retrieved canopy rummage retrieve	marooned cacophony exhilarating navigate scour