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Dear Parents/Carers,

The theme for this half term is 'Savage Stone Age to Industrious Iron Age' - a history-based topic which allows children to investigate early humans. We will be looking at careers across our topics including historians, archeologists, scientists, authors, artists, sculptors, game designers and geologists. If you have a job that links with any of these areas, we would be happy if you would consider coming into school to explain what you do to the children to broaden their understanding. Within the topic we will be focusing on such areas as:

History

- Changes in Britain from the Stone Age and the Iron Age.
- To investigate and interpret the past.
- To build an understanding of chronology.
- To communicate historically.

Geography

- Extreme Earth:
- To understand that the Earth is made up of different layers; inner core, outer core, mantle and crust.
- To understand that natural disasters are still occurring today around the world.
- To know how volcanoes, earthquakes, tsunamis and hurricanes are created.
- Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied.

Science

- Rocks and Fossils - Compare and group rocks based on their physical properties.
- To describe the formation of fossils.

Art and design

- To develop their sculpting skills using the medium of plasticine.
- Taking inspiration from the 'Change for Life' art work of Keith Haring with an emphasis on movement.

Computing

- To begin to code using the programming language of Scratch.
- To create algorithms and debug them accordingly.
- To be able to code a working game and look at the career of game designers.
- To use technology to communicate and connect safely.

Music

- To investigate singing for performance and developing their voices as instruments.

RE

- Investigating the question:
- How do Hindus worship?

French

- To read, write and speak basic greetings in French.
- Learning about the geography and culture of France.



- To communicate all about themselves in French and hold conversations with each other.

PSHCE/SEAL

- To consider their New Beginning in Year 3 and the challenges they may face.
- Develop strategies to have a successful Year 3.
- Work towards keeping our school a bullying free zone through our successful Rights Respecting programme.

PE

- Developing their throwing and catching skills using games.
- Improving their dance and gymnastic ability.

English and Maths

In English the children will be developing their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills using the stimulus of our class texts and our Stone Age to Iron Age topic. They will be writing a wide range of text types linked to this to improve and develop their writing. In Maths, children will be concentrating on mastering their basic skills of place value, addition and subtraction and will use these to solve a wide range of problems. As always, times tables consolidation will form an ongoing focus for our daily mental maths sessions and any support you can offer your child at home in practising these will undoubtedly help to build their confidence and develop fluency in their maths skills. Your child also has online access to **Times Tables Rockstar** and **Conquer Maths** and these may be required to complete homework tasks. Please encourage your child to make use of these valuable resources as much as possible. If you do not have access to a computer at home your child will be given opportunities to take part in online activities at school.

PE is timetabled for a **Tuesday and Friday afternoon**. Please ensure your child has an appropriate kit comprising of a white t-shirt, navy or black shorts, navy or black track suit bottoms or joggers if possible (for outdoors) and a pair of trainers. Weather permitting, we will be outdoors for our first PE topic. It is useful if this PE kit stays in school all week as sometimes PE days can change at short notice; for example, if there are extra taster sessions for a range of sports or if we need to swap our PE day for any reason. For health and safety reasons the children will need to remove all jewellery (watches, bracelets and earrings) before being able to join in PE. Please help us by making sure your child can remove and replace their own earrings confidently and safely as we are unable to assist them.

Homework and Reading

Homework is strongly linked with our topics and will be set termly with some additional tasks added as required, for example spelling challenges. Children will bring their homework books home on a Friday and homework should be completed and the book returned by the following **Thursday** to allow us the opportunity to review and mark the children's work. We ask that children read with an adult for a minimum of five minutes each night and that you record this in their reading journal which must be in school each day. All children have access to a range of different books through their own **bug club** log in. In addition, we would love it if any parents/carers or grandparents would like to volunteer in school during the day to listen to children read. If you are interested just pop into school and ask the office or myself for more information.

If you would like to discuss any aspects of the curriculum further, please don't hesitate to contact me and I will be happy to give you further information.

Yours Sincerely,
Miss A. McKee