

KIRTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

TERM 4 NEWSLETTER 2021



YEAR 3

February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We would like to welcome you to the start of a new term. In light of the current government guidance, the majority of children will be learning from home using Google Classrooms: this learning will mirror the learning that takes place in school.

Our Topic

Term 4: The Earth

In this topic children will learn about the layers of the Earth, how volcanoes are formed and what causes them to erupt. Also, they will learn about plate tectonics and how earthquakes occur. Children will also learn about the different types of rocks, how they are formed and be able to identify some of these linked to their properties. They will work as 'Rock Detectives' establishing core knowledge and understanding of rocks, their relationship to soils and how fossils have formed over time.

Collins Big Cat ebook suggestion

A Finders' Guide to Rocks, Fossils and Soils

Alison Milford

ISBN 9780008208776

Maths and English

In maths lessons, children will be learning about column addition and subtraction, presenting data using graphs and charts, multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 times tables, and equivalent fractions, and measuring the perimeter of 2D shapes. In order to support your child, you could measure items around the home, practise counting forwards and backwards in numbered steps, and using basic column addition and subtraction.

It would really support your child if they were confident with their times tables. This would help them in all areas of maths. This term your child needs to learn the: *8 times table*

x2 x10 x5 x4 x3 x8 x6 x9 x7 x11 x12 p1

In English, we will be learning about: *descriptive story openers, setting the scene, instructions, newspaper reports, adventure stories, information texts and explanation texts.*

In order to support your child, you could discuss how plots and characters are developed by authors, both in books and in adventure films. You could also look at the layout of newspaper articles or news websites.

The spellings your child will be learning this term may be accessed through Google Classrooms; it would be really useful if you would help your child learn these spellings.

Please encourage your child to read at home every day and ask them questions about what they are reading at every opportunity.

We will be using **Collins Big Cat ebooks** and aim to update the book choices regularly. Log in details have been sent home for this.

Homework

Homework is set on a Thursday and will continue to support your child's education. It will include weekly maths or English activities as well as topic-based investigations, spellings and multiplication facts. If there are ever any problems about the homework, please come and see us as soon as possible.

PE

Our PE days are Monday and Tuesday/Wednesday. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate PE kit. For outdoor games, the children need plain black/navy tracksuit bottoms, a plain white t-shirt, a plain sweatshirt and trainers. For indoor PE, the children need plain black/navy shorts, a plain white t-shirt and plimsolls. Every item needs to be clearly labelled and in a bag that will remain in school every day. Kits will be taken home to be washed at the end of each term. No items should be taken home during the term.

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Important Dates

- 04.03.21 – World Book Day
- 08.03.21 – School to reopen to all pupils
- 01.04.21 – Last day of term 4
- 19.04.21 – First day of term 5

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING THIS TERM:

Key things that parents can do to support their child this term related to things they will be learning about:

- Look at different examples of volcanoes and create a fact file.
- Search for different rocks and test their properties e.g. Do they float? Do they break easily?
- You can make a papier-mâché volcano using a small water bottle and create a volcanic eruption. See below for more information.
- You can design your own earthquake emergency kit. Think about the most important things you would need.
- You can draw or create a model of the earth showing the different layers: inner core, outer core, mantle and crust.
- To help your child you could visit the website below:
<https://www.ducksters.com/science/rocks.php>
This will explain the rock cycle. Once your child has finished there is an interactive quiz they can try.
- When outside or travelling to and from school you can have a discussion with your child about how rocks are being used in the local community.

How to make a papier-mâché volcano

What you need

Cardboard (A3)
An empty small soda bottle (no lid)
Masking tape
Plain flour and water mixed (equal parts flour and water)
Newspaper and paint



Method

1. Place the soda bottle in the centre of the cardboard and hold together with masking tape.
2. Use cardboard strips to shape the volcano by taping one end to the bottle top and the other to the cardboard base.
3. Overlap strips to form a sturdy base.
4. Leave the bottle opening uncovered. Tear newspaper into small pieces, dip into papier-mâché paste and stick it all over the shape. Repeat until it's all covered.
5. Apply 2-3 layers until you get the volcano shape you like. Let it dry for 24 hours. Then paint the volcano as you like.

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How to make your volcano erupt

What you need

Baking soda
Vinegar
Washing up liquid
Red food colouring (optional)

Method

1. Place your volcano outdoors on a sturdy surface.
2. Gather your supplies: 1 tablespoon warm water; washing up liquid; red food colouring; 1 tablespoon baking soda; vinegar and a small paper cup.
3. Mix water, dishwashing liquid and red food colouring.
4. Pour into the top of the volcano.
5. Add baking soda and stir with a narrow stick.
6. Fill a paper cup with vinegar about 1/3 full.
7. Then pour into the crater, step back and watch your homemade volcano erupt!

Yours Sincerely

Miss Taylor and Miss Hodson

Year 3 Class Teachers

