



# Combe Martin School

## Welcome to Year 3 and 4!

### Spring Term 2022



Hello and welcome back to school. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and are ready for the new school term. We are looking forward to the new term and the exciting things we have planned for the children. We are still going to be very diligent with regards to Covid -19 and we will continue to keep measures in place to help your child remain safe within school - including a well ventilated classroom. So to this end, your child may need to wear a vest/t shirt underneath their school shirt for additional warmth. We will continue to have Mrs Railston teach across both classes, as well as some music teaching from Mrs Mortlock, and we will continue to plan opportunities for the two classes to work collaboratively.

#### Communication



Please continue to contact us using Class Dojo, this remains the quickest way to get a message to us. We will also post pictures and updates regularly on Dojo as well as on the school Twitter account to keep you up to date with what your child is enjoying.

This term we will continue to send Maths and English books home weekly, this is a great opportunity for you to have a conversation with their child about their learning!

If your child needs to isolate at any point, we will be able to upload work to Google Classroom (if they are well enough to do the work). We will also use this to post some home learning, as well as learning opportunities within the class.



Google Classroom

#### Topic

Our topic for the Spring term is Rocks, Relics and Rumbles. This project teaches children about the features and characteristics of the Earth's layers, including a detailed exploration of volcanic, tectonic and seismic activity. We will be looking to answer the questions:

- Are natural disasters disasters for the world or just for humans?
- Can we control our earth?
- What changes our planet?
- Can we control Mother Nature?

We will share a knowledge organiser with the children which will give an overview of the topic. We will also be creating a home learning grid with many different opportunities for extra learning - keep your eyes on Google Classroom!

#### English

We will be starting our Spring Term with a poetry unit entitled 'Environment' and we will be entering the poems into The Rotary Club Young Writers annual competition - there will be a consent form needed to be filled in which we will provide in due course. We are going to create poems using powerful verbs and adjectives to highlight an environmental issue. We will then be moving onto learning how to write biographies, we will link this into our topic by learning about Mary Anning. We will also continue to have a focus on vocabulary choices - using Vocabulary Ninja to learn and use new exciting words, please also encourage your child to look for new vocabulary in their reading. The children will also be working hard on improving their handwriting, it is important that all the children form and join their letters correctly. We are looking forward to seeing writing which everyone can be really proud of!



#### Maths

The children will be working on a range of mathematics this term, including multiplication and division and fractions. We will continue to use a range of equipment to support our learning as well as visual representations.

By the end of Year 4 children are expected to know all their times tables up to 12x12. Please help the children practise these at home, both in order and out of order including multiplications and divisions.

We will be continuing to practise and learn our times tables and the chromebooks are an ideal way for the children to practise their tables at home. Don't forget these websites can help:

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>

<http://primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/maths/timestable/interactive.htm>

#### Multiplication Check

In June this year all Year 4 children in the country are required to take a Multiplication Check. This will take the form of an online check to determine whether year 4 pupils can fluently recall their multiplication tables. The check will assess whether the children can **quickly** recall times table facts – in the practise check last year children had approximately 7 seconds to answer each question. Please help your child practise their times tables facts!

## P.E.

This half term we are lucky to have secured some specialist PE teaching and this will be on a Thursday morning. Please send the children into school on Thursdays dressed in their PE kits so they will not be changing in school, PE kits should include: a thin wind proof coat, well fitting trainers, black or navy shorts or tracksuit trousers, a white T-shirt and a **school** jumper. As the weather can be cold please add a black or dark coloured hat and a pair of gloves! Please make sure that your child's name is in all of their kit and also send children with a spare set of clothes on PE days in case clothes get wet or muddy. This term Year 3 and 4 will be swimming on Thursday afternoons, Year 4 will be swimming for the first half term, a letter has been sent about this on Class Dojo. Year 3 will be swimming after February half term.



## Character Education and Super Learners

We are very excited to be continuing our character education, thinking about how to become inspiring change makers. We will be exploring different character virtues throughout the term starting with **helpfulness** and **caring**. Mrs Holmes will also be delivering weekly assemblies linked to our virtues and we will be exploring themes within class too.

Helpfulness, Caring,  
Critical Thinking, Honesty,  
Justice, Service,  
Resilience

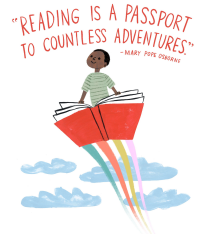
## Reading

THERE ARE MANY LITTLE WAYS TO  
ENLARGE YOUR CHILD'S WORLD.  
LOVE OF BOOKS  
IS THE BEST OF ALL.  
- JACQUELINE KENNEDY

We will continue to support the children's reading through explicit skills being taught in Guided sessions - these include vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval and summarising. You can support your child by asking them questions about their reading books at home and try to get them to use evidence from the text to support their thinking.

All children need to be reading regularly and be given the opportunity to discuss their reading. Sharing books and enjoying a story together is lovely for all readers. We will also continue to share stories and poems in class. Don't forget that each week the children will have a Reading Task which we will post on Google

Classroom to complete at home which will be linked to the work which we have done during their Guided Reading sessions. These Reading Tasks can either be completed in their blue Love Reading books or in Google Classroom.



## General Information

We encourage the children to be independent and it is their responsibility to bring their Love Reading book and reading books in on a **daily** basis. If your child has a black or blue pen which they like to write with, they can bring their own pen in to use in school. Please do not send any other equipment into school. They also need their chromebook and please help them to remember to charge them before they come to school!



## Morning Snack

Please remember the children need to bring a piece of fruit as their snack for breaktime.

## End of the Day

We will continue to walk the children out of school to the front gates at the end of the day. If you have a child in Class 1 or 2 please collect them first and we will stay with your children at the main gates until you come around to collect them. If you want your child to walk home on their own, please ensure that you let their class teacher know, we cannot let any children leave school by themselves if we do not have parental permission.

If you have any questions or would like to find out more about our work this term, please do come and see us, contact us via Class Dojo or through email:

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Here's to an enjoyable, fun filled and exciting Spring Term!

*Jo Railston, Amy Lewis and Annie Challacombe*