

# Zephaniah Class News

Class teacher: Mrs Harrison

## Welcome Back!

I hope you had a restful and fun summer. It is lovely to be back and see how eager the children are to share their summer adventures and get started on our new learning.

Our topic this half term is 'Awesome Animals' and we will be basing our learning around this exciting topic. Our big question is 'Which is the most important animal of all?'

## What we are learning....

We have started our year by learning about who Benjamin Zephaniah is and what inspires him to write poetry. We have enjoyed reading a few of his poems and are looking forward to writing our own poems next week.

### Science

This half term we will be learning about 'Animals including Humans'. We will be learning about the human digestive system and teeth as well as constructing different food chains and learning to label them. Our key scientist is Marie Maynard Daly and we will be learning about her work as a biochemist.

### Maths

This half term we will be starting our 'Number and Place Value' work and learning how to work with 4-digit numbers. We will also be building some work on time into our day, as this is something we are finding tricky. Maybe you could practise telling the time at home? In Year 4, our focus is times tables as this helps us in so many different areas of maths and we will have a test on this at the end of the year. We will continue to use TT Rockstars to help us with this and I look forward to awarding certificates to children that have worked hard with this.

### English

Our class novel is 'The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe' by C.S. Lewis. We are going to be writing a non-chronological report about animals which we will research and plan during our Science lessons. We are also going to learn how to do a film review. We are going to be busy!

## Dates for your diary

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September - KS2 Choir Master Singing workshop

W/C 12<sup>th</sup> September - Clubs begin. For details see school newsletter and website.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September - Individual photographs

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October - Parents Evenings. Letters will be sent out nearer the time with information on how to book.

6<sup>th</sup> October - National Poetry Day

21<sup>st</sup> September - Half term



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## Homework

- It is important that your child practises their times tables at home, either on TT Rockstars or Purple Mash or even by writing them out or saying them out loud. By the end of Year 4, we need to be fluently recalling all our times tables facts and corresponding division facts all the way to 12 x 12. Practising them at home for 10 minutes each day will help make maths easier for your child.
- Another essential skill to practise at home is reading, whether it is the book they bring home from school or one you have at home. Again, little and often is the best way to help your child.
- We have an exciting new spelling scheme this year! Details will follow in a separate letter.

## Messages

- Our P.E. sessions are on Tuesday, please come to school wearing your outdoor P.E. kit. Earrings need to be removed, they cannot be covered with tape.
- Please make sure your child brings a water bottle to school, it is important that they keep hydrated throughout the day.