

### How can I support my child?

- Carry on with all the great work you're doing, discussing the text your child is reading with them at home. Also, discussing news topics and current affairs with your child is also a really beneficial. We will be performing and investigating our own poetry this term - maybe you would enjoy looking at some poetry as a family?
- Remind children to explore MyMaths. Weekly homework will be set on this programme, but children can also practise skills they would like to revise.
- Regular practice of times tables will help children feel more confident in their maths lessons. A free activity can be found at this link: [http://www.transum.org/Tables/Times\\_Tables.asp](http://www.transum.org/Tables/Times_Tables.asp)
- Each week your child will come home with a spelling list to practise. This will cover all the rules they should learn in Upper Key Stage 2, as well as the mandatory words from The National Curriculum. A full list of these words can be found in the back of your child's planner, allowing you to get a head start at home. Likewise, regular review of grammar terminology will help your child to become increasingly confident with the year 5/6 curriculum
- If you are able to develop your child's topic learning even further out of the classroom any map work and orienteering would be really helpful for them, as well as getting them to locate and recognise counties within the UK - maybe football teams would spur some of them on!

Cavendish Church of England Primary School

## Information for Parents

### Spring Term 2020 Geography of the U.K.



Neptune Class  
Mrs. Reynolds

*Challenge, Creativity, Compassion: Create a pure heart in me -  
Psalm 51:10*

Dear parents,

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

Our topic for this term is *Geography of the UK* and, as always, this will be taught across the curriculum. We will be using our geographic skills to locate counties of the UK, carry out in-depth case studies of national parks, such as Snowdonia, the Peak District and Lake District moors and how they have changed over time. We will also be developing key skills such as: reading OS maps, using and applying 6 figure grid references as well as understanding contour lines on key peaks. This will also allow us to explore rivers and surrounding seas, as well as how topographical features impact on weather patterns in the U.K. Finally, we will look at how land is used in different ways, such as transport, defence and leisure, in addition to carrying out a field study during our visit to Clare Country Park. During this visit we will be both using measuring and mapping our own keys, and looking at how landscapes have changed in their use and application.

In our English lessons, we will be reading and performing poetry from all the countries of the UK, starting with the Welsh folktale of *Gelert* and stopping off in the Lake District to study the daffodils in Wordsworth's 'I wandered lonely as a cloud'. We will also be developing our writing skills by studying, reading and creating narratives, plays and non-fiction texts. Guided reading will be a weekly session on Friday mornings and your support is requested to ensure the children have completed the required reading ready for the analysis in the lesson. In the current curriculum spelling, handwriting and the overall presentation of the children's work is a limiting judgement and therefore will be a tight daily focus. This is also an area the children will need to increasingly focus on when completing their homework.

Our science this term looks at 'All Living Things and Their Habitats', in which we will explore the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird and describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals. Throughout the term we will also investigate how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics, including micro-organisms, plants and animals, and give reasons for such classification based on specific characteristics. This will also involve looking at the work of Aristotle and Carl Linnaeus, so any information books or posters they can look at or bring in on this topic would be very useful. As always we will explore this through practical investigations that will encourage children to draw conclusions and scientifically discuss their findings. Maths will continue to focus on the key areas, starting with work on Decimals in Year 6 and Area and Perimeter in Year 5. Please support your children in regularly practising their times table facts and making sure they are still confident in reading the 24 hour clock.

Your child has an updated timetable in their planner; please share this to enable your child to arrive in school well-equipped for the day ahead. PE kit will be needed every day, and sessions will remain on Mondays and Tuesdays. Please ensure children have warm outdoor clothing for this and robust footwear. Children will still continue with French and music. In computing we will be looking at how apps are developed and designing our own within school.

In Art we will be studying and creating landscape collages, linked to our topic, with a focus on the work of British sculptor Andy Goldsworthy. Neptune class will also be designing and building 3D maps of countries within the U.K. Also in Cookery we will be looking at a range of regional foods to represent the U.K. This term PSHE will focus on "Staying Safe", before moving on to "Relationships and Health". This will be covered through class discussion, stories, personal reflection and written work. In RE we will be looking at the beliefs and questions linked to Hinduism before moving on to, and comparing them to, those surrounding Christianity.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,  
Mrs Reynolds