

# TERM: AUTUMN 1 2024

# Varjak Newsletter



Welcome to Varjak Class!

**Class Teacher: Miss Ash**

**Teaching Assistants: Mrs DuPlessis and Mrs Holden**

I hope that you have all had a fantastic summer holiday. I am very excited about sharing our class adventures with you, this year. If you have any questions or concerns- please feel free to speak to me after school, through Dojo or by sending an email via the school office.



## Escape from Pompeii and The Street beneath my feet



English

We will be reading and looking at the illustrations in these fantastic books to inspire our writing this term. We will be writing a newspaper report, a narrative and a diary entry.

## White Rose Maths

This term, we will be focusing on the following main areas:

- Place Value up to 1,000
- Addition and Subtraction

As part of this we will be using manipulatives, problem solving and creating real life scenarios in the classroom.



Geography

## Why do people live near volcanoes?

This term, we will be looking at how the Earth is constructed, including tectonic plates and their boundaries. We will be looking at how mountains are formed, types of volcanoes and the cause of earthquakes. Pupils will then have the chance to discuss the negative and positive effects of living in a volcanic environment.



Science

## Animals including humans

We will be looking at the human skeleton, identifying key bones and comparing them to other animals. We will be discussing how changes in muscles result in movement and how discoveries in scientific development have affected this. We will also be researching the importance of a balanced diet in humans.

## How can we be a good friend?



RSE & PSHE

This term, we will learn about friendship, including why it is important and what makes a good friend. Pupils will also look at how to maintain good friendships, as well as how to solve disagreements and conflicts with their peers.



During reading comprehension lessons (VIPERS), the children will work on improving their vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval and summarising skills. They will build on these to help them to analyse and discuss texts, and answer comprehension questions. Your child will be issued a banded-book, which will be sent home daily for their home reading. This book is also required for accelerated reader tests as well as short reading breaks during the day, so please ensure your child brings this into school each day.



# Key Events:



- Thursday —PE
- 16th October—Woodlands School
- 24th October Poetry Day



## Art and Design

### Drawing: Growing artists

We will be taking inspiration from botanical drawings and scientific plant studies by Charles Darwin and Carl Linnaeus. We will then be exploring artist Georgia O'Keefe and the techniques that are used to draw natural forms. Pupils will have the opportunity to experiment with their drawing, using scale and tonal shading.



## Music

### Learning to play the recorder

We are lucky enough to have a music teacher from Kent Music working with our class this year. They will be teaching pupils how to play the recorder, as well as read music. Pupils will also be having music theory lessons, where we will be looking at Ballads and how to identify their features.



## Design and Technology

### Electrical systems

This term, pupils will be introduced to information design and electrical systems. We will be looking at what parts make up a circuit and how electrical systems can be used in advertising. They will then have the opportunity to create an electronic poster using a basic circuit.



## Computing

### Networks:

We will be discovering how Computing systems and networks work. Pupils will learn what a network is and how devices communicate and share information. They will then have the opportunity to create a poster to showcase their learning.



## Religion & Worldviews

### Respectful R & W:

Thinking about what religions and worldviews are, pupils explore the lens that they and others look at the world through.

### Why do people have to stand up for what they believe in?

Exploring ideas about spirituality, pupils interpret and use art to express beliefs about the soul and inner self. We will be covering Hindu, Christian, Buddhist and Humanist worldviews.



## French

### French greetings with puppets

This term, we will be introducing the French language to pupils. We will be using puppets to learn a variety of French greetings and introductions, as well as choosing the correct greeting based on the time of day.



## PE

### Football & Basketball

In both sports, pupils will explore how to apply the principles of attack vs defence, with a particular focus on passing and moving, dribbling and shooting. They will learn how to keep possession and eventually score in order to win a modified game.

This year, homework will be set on Spelling Shed and Times Tables Rockstars. Homework will consist of reading every evening, spellings, grammar or punctuation and times tables.

Due: **Thursday** of each week.

Work Set: **Friday** of each week.



RESPECT

COLLABORATION

Our Values

resilience

AWARENESS

Courage!

EQUALITY